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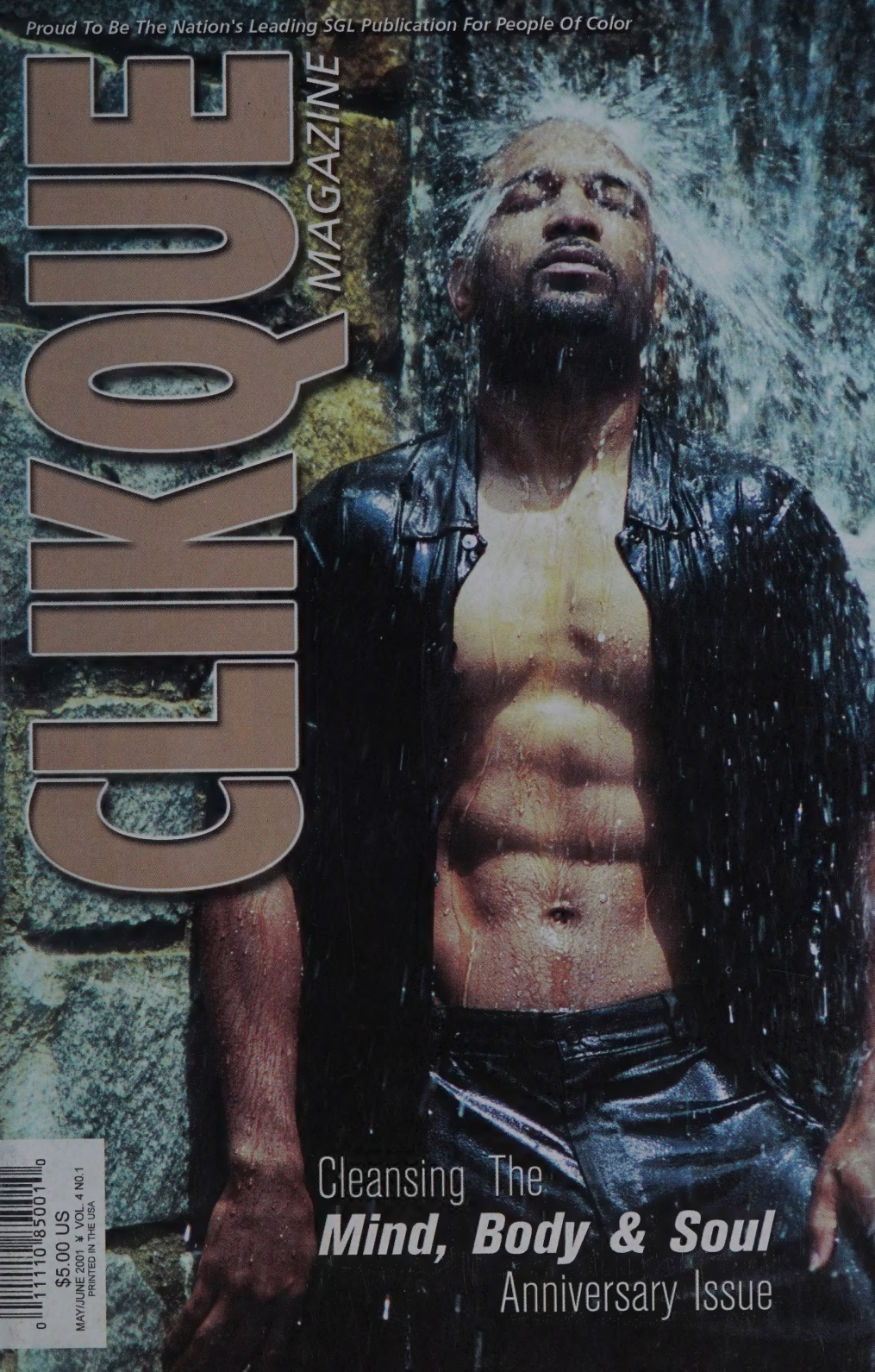

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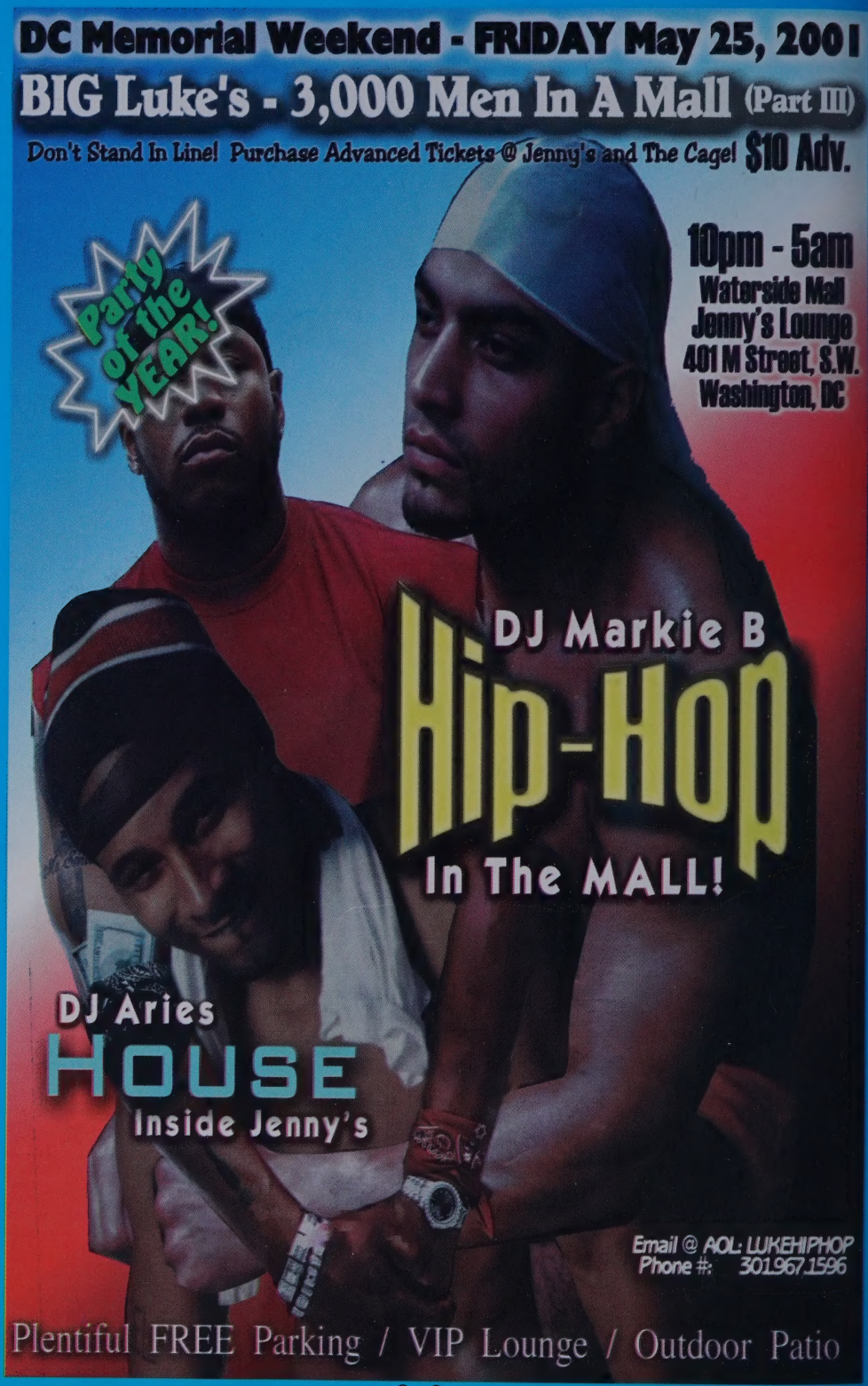
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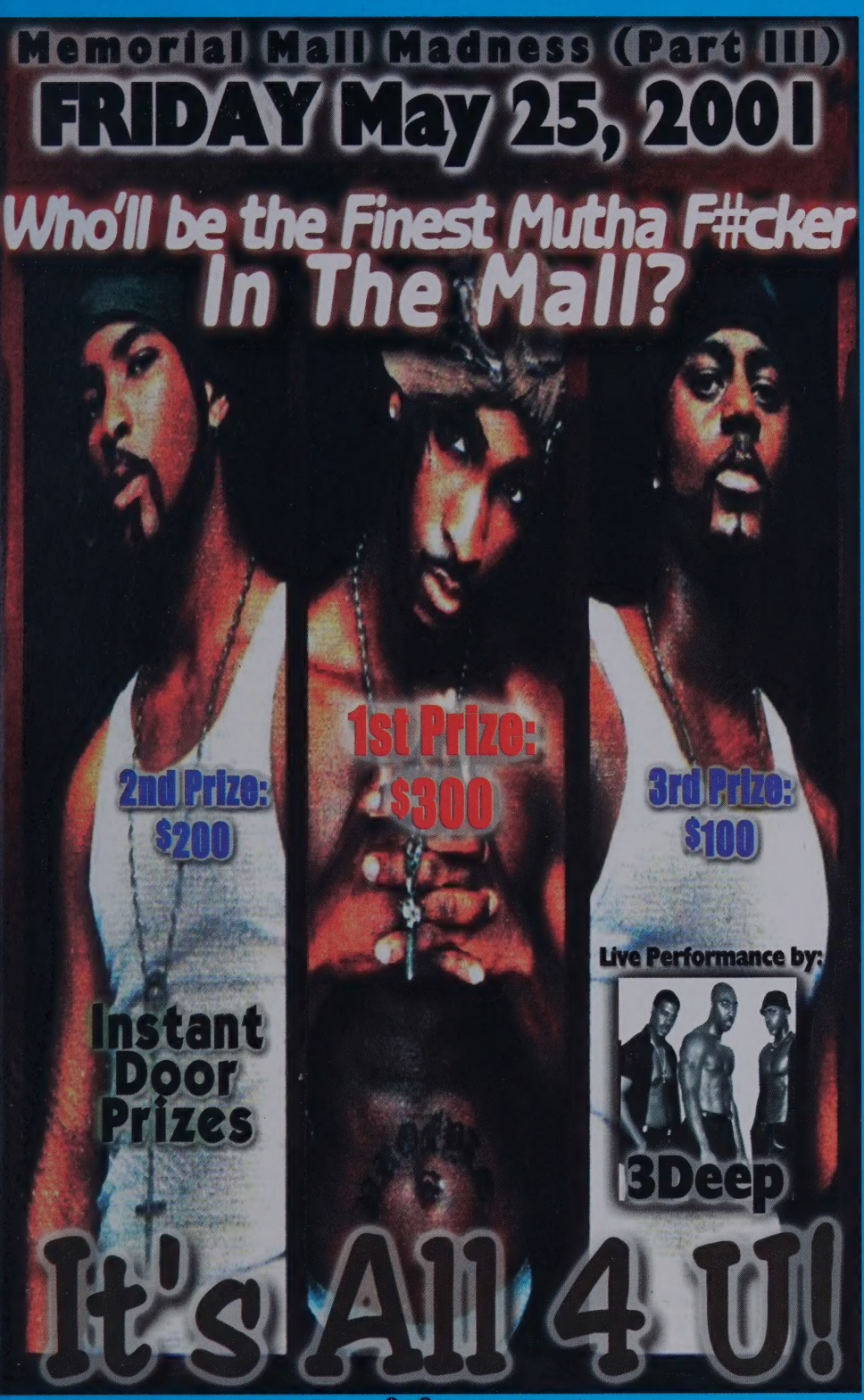

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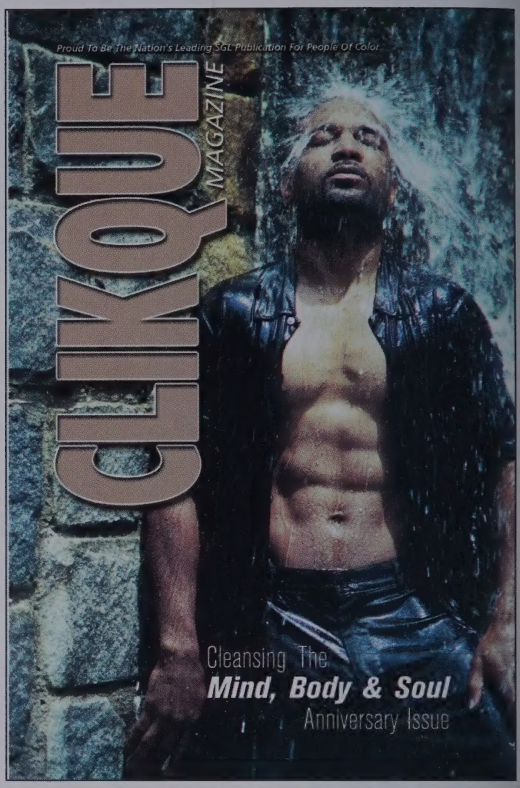

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Happy 3rd Year Anniversary May 1998 May 2001

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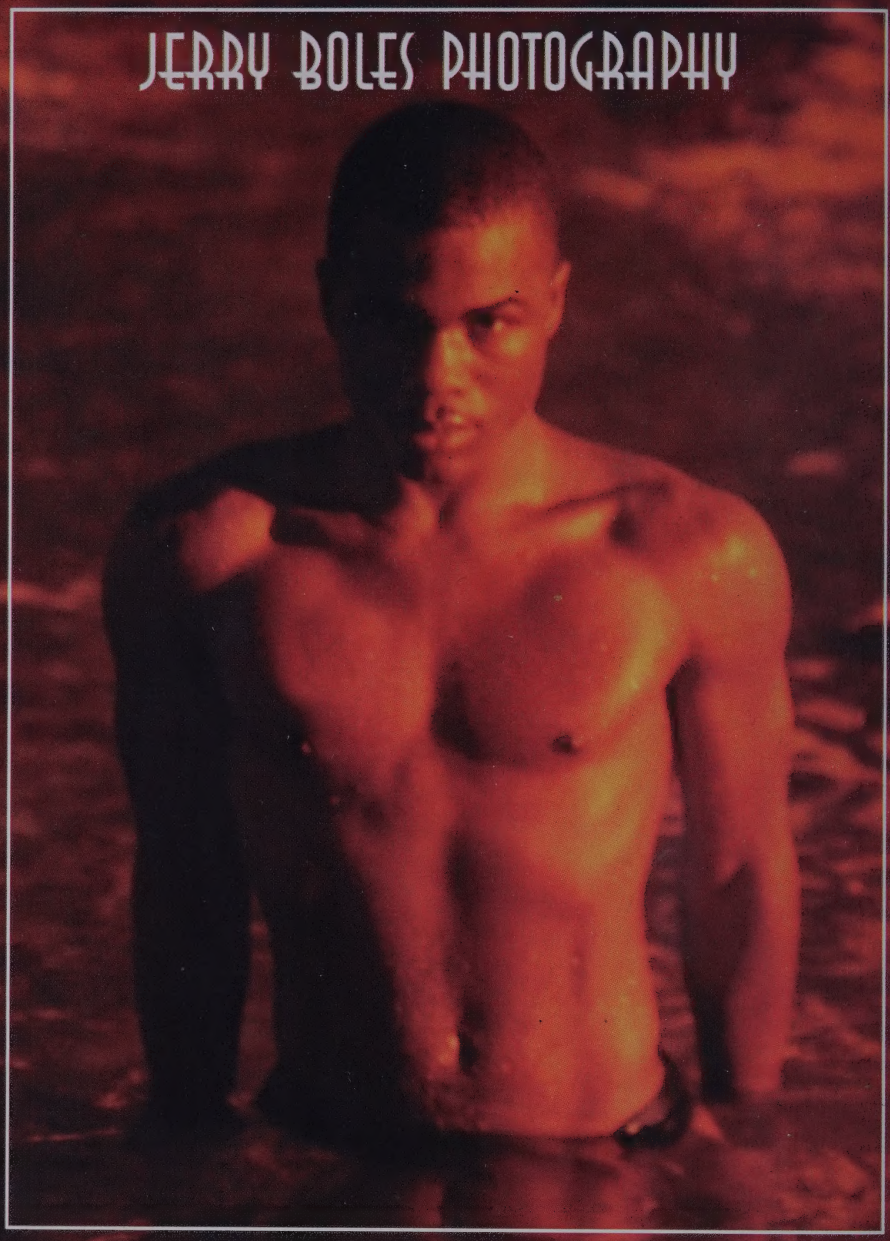

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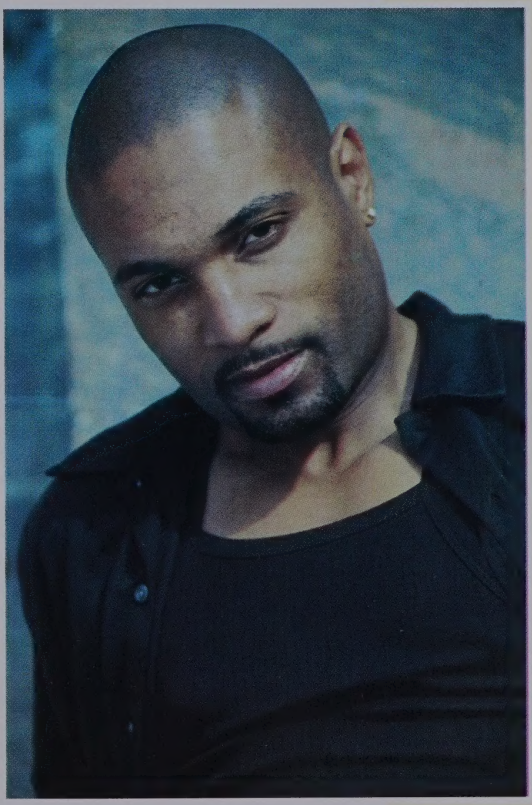

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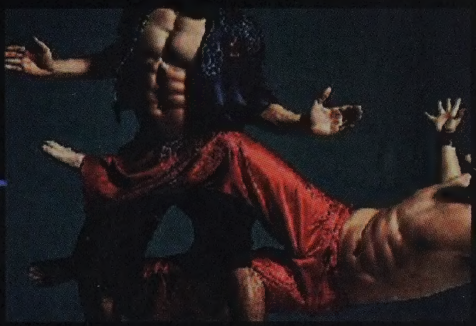

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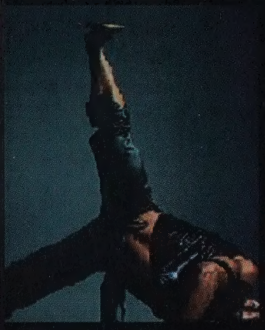

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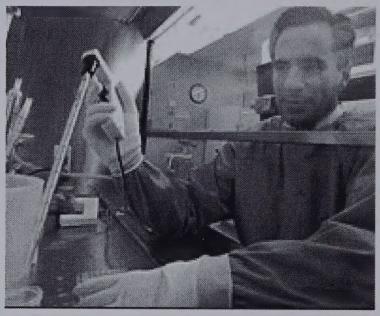
CAN AIDS EVER BE CURED?

The latest research on the resourceful HIV virus that causes the disease suggests a disheartening answer: Probably not.

Just a few years ago, even some of the most sober-minded researchers wondered if the end of AIDS might be near. Perhaps the pills that miraculously changed HIV from a death sentence to a chronic infection would go the final step, they thought, eventually curing the infection by purging every trace of the virus from the human body.

Such talk quickly faded. The new drug cocktails, amazing as they were, could not get rid of the virus. Even if all signs of it vanished for years, HIV was still lurking somewhere. Inevitably it roared back by the billions as soon as people stopped taking their medicines.

Ever since that realization sank in, finding



Dr. Robert Siliciano, of Johns Hopkins University, regularly tests the blood of about 50 Baltimore AIDS patients, measuring HIV's persistence

HIV's hiding places has been the goal of a small group of researchers. What they have learned is one of the biggest disappointments in AIDS research.

The fact that HIV is an insidious and resourceful parasite is hardly a surprise. After all, AIDS researchers already understand in lavish detail how HIV latches onto human blood cells, how it oozes inside and kills them. They know the significance of every bump and crevice on the surface of the virus and how these shield it from destruction.

But no basic AIDS discovery in recent times has proved so disturbing as the way HIV burrows in for the long haul.

It has shifted the ultimate goal of AIDS treatment toward something less ambitious. Since eradicating HIV now seems so unlikely -- although not everyone has given up -- many contend the next best thing will be somehow training the body to control the virus, to help patients live with HIV instead of getting rid of it.

Many of the insights come from the work of Dr. Robert Siliciano of Johns Hopkins University, who regularly tests the blood of about 50 Baltimore AIDS patients, measuring the virus's persistence despite the best treatments.

HIV's long memory

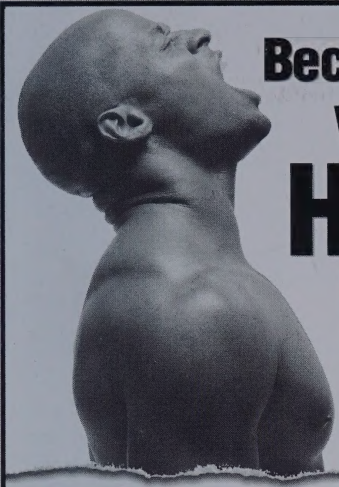
"What HIV has done is tap into the most fundamental aspect of the immune system, and that is its immunological memory," he says. "It's the perfect mechanism for the virus to ensure its survival."

Perfect because the virus lies silent inside cells that are programmed to do nothing but sit and wait. They are called resting memory T cells. Their only job is to store a record of the germs they encounter, keeping the body prepared for the next time it sees them.

These cells literally are the immune system's memory, so they must survive for a long time. Otherwise we would catch the same diseases over and over. HIV lies inside these sleeping cells, dormant but dangerous. Siliciano believes this means HIV infection will last a lifetime.

The memory cells do die off, but ever so slowly. At the rate he sees in his Baltimore patients, it will take 73 years for them to go away completely. He cannot imagine a way to speed up the process, certainly not with the drugs now available or with anything else on the horizon.

This latently infected reservoir, as scientists call it, is the single biggest obstacle to getting rid of AIDS. "It's the thing that keeps us from curing this," says Dr. Roger Pomerantz of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.



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For a while, anything seemed possible

None of this was obvious in 1996, the dawn of the modern age of AIDS treatment. Doctors watched AIDS patients literally get up from their death beds after taking the newly available drug combinations. Anything seemed possible.

Dr. David Ho of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center in New York City cautiously speculated about eradicating HIV. If the drugs stopped the virus from infecting more blood cells, then the ones already loaded with virus would eventually die off naturally, leaving the body virus free. Perhaps this would take two or three years, he thought.

But in late 1997, another discovery made that seem unlikely. Siliciano and two other teams independently found the virus inside memory T cells. They checked people who had seemingly been free of virus for two years. Every time, they found fully potent copies of virus inside their memory cells.

No one understood then how long these cells would stay alive, although it was assumed it would almost certainly be more than a couple of years.

"It was a sobering realization about the recalcitrant nature of this reservoir," remembers Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The next obvious approach was to try to destroy these Trojan horses.

Fauci's team tried to "flush out the reservoir," as they put it. The idea: Intermittently feed the body interleukin-2, a growth hormone that would make these dormant memory cells awaken and then die.

The experiment seemed to go well. Doctors biopsied patients' lymph nodes and found nothing. They grew hundreds of millions of their cells in cultures. Still nothing. Finally they stopped all treatment and waited. Within three or four weeks, they had their answer. The virus came back in every single patient.

"We are not going to be eliminating this reservoir," Fauci now says. "Whether you can measure it or not doesn't seem to have a significant impact on the clinically relevant phenomenon of what happens when you stop the drug."

Nevertheless, scientists have learned much about how the virus hides. HIV's primary target in the body is a kind of white blood cell known as a cd4 T helper cell. The virus infects them, hijacks their machinery so they manufacture more virus, then kills them.

After they get infected, though, a few of these helper cells become memory cells. HIV has already stitched its genes into the cells' genetic code in preparation for making more virus. But nothing happens. The cells go to sleep, virus

Continues On Page 15

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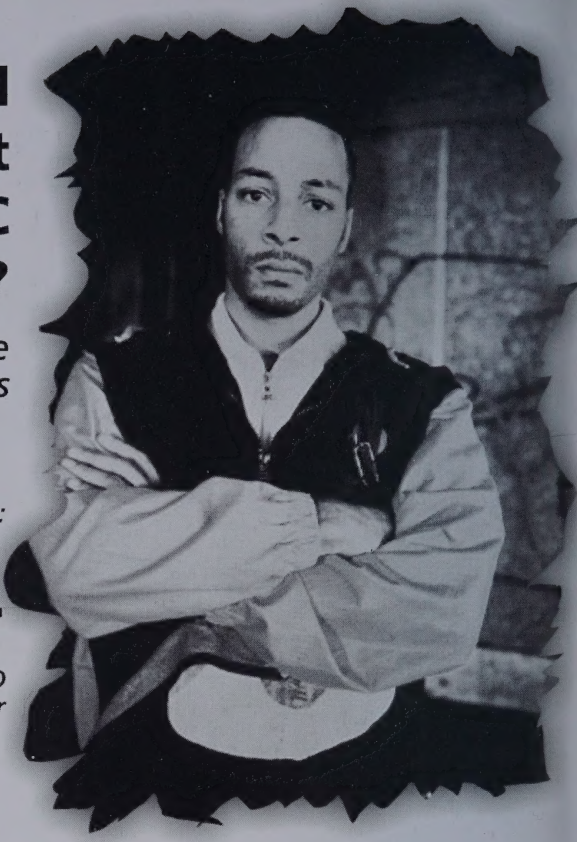

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ABSOLUTE WELLNESS

Continued From Page

and all.

All of this happens within the first days of an HIV infection, even before the body begins to make antibodies against the virus. The number of cells involved is relatively small, perhaps 1 million scattered through the blood stream, the lymph glands and perhaps elsewhere.

HIV replicated with each memory cell division

Normally, the body kills HIV-infected cells. But it misses these, because they look perfectly normal. "The only difference between a latently infected cell and its uninfected counterparts is a little bit of HIV DNA," says Siliciano.

This similarity also makes the infected cells almost impossible to kill with any kind of targeted drugs. There is simply no easy way to sort out the good from the bad.

Siliciano has been counting these cells in his Baltimore volunteers for five years. The number he finds in their bodies now "is essentially exactly the same as they started with."

Why do they die off so slowly, if at all? There are two leading theories: Their longevity reflects the basic biology of memory T cells, or their supply is constantly replenished.

Siliciano favors the first theory. Immunological memory lasts forever. This is why someone who catches measles in childhood will remain immune to the disease into old age.

Memory cells may die over time, but they also make replacements by cell division. And every time a memory cell divides, it faithfully reproduces the HIV that is stitched into its genes.

However, the Diamond Center's Ho prefers the second theory. Actually, memory cells are much shorter lived, he believes. But their supply is constantly being renewed by a continuing cycle of low-level infection.

The standard drug regimens -- what doctors call highly active antiretroviral therapy, or HAART -- can reduce viral levels by 10,000 fold. But perhaps they do not completely stop the virus from infecting fresh T cells. Some of these go on to become infected memory cells. Thus, however quickly these memory cells die, they are replaced by more.

"If we could stop the residual replication, what would be the persistence of the reservoir?" Ho asks. His team has started a new experiment, code numbered 377, to find out.

A drug combo solution?

They have come up with a new four-drug combination, a kind of super-HAART, that they believe is more powerful than the standard variety. About 30 patients are taking the drugs. The goal is to stop the low-level circulation of their virus, which in turn should shut off the supply of newly infected memory cells.

If it works, Ho believes it could wipe out the body's HIV-infected memory T cells in three to four years.

"No one would say that once we get rid of this reservoir, we have a cure," says Ho. "We have confronted a difficult problem, but there may be others."

Among the biggest of these is the worry that infected memory T cells are not the body's only long-lived reservoir of HIV. The virus may linger as well in other places that are hard to check or lie beyond the reach of AIDS drugs, such as the brain, bone marrow and testes.

"It will be a daunting task to eliminate those unknown viral reservoirs, even with much more potent drugs that might come out in the near future," says Dr. Tae-Wook Chun of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

This is why Chun and many AIDS researchers now believe the best defense against HIV may ultimately be the body's own.

These doctors would like to teach the immune system to control HIV, so people can stop taking AIDS drugs, which have unpleasant and unhealthy side effects.

No one can say whether this is even possible. But they already can envision a strategy: Shut down viral replication with standard drugs. Then give vaccines and other boosters that will intensify the body's natural -- and up to now, failed -- surveillance against HIV.

In time, they say, the immune system might learn to do the entire job alone. But all of this is unproven theory, just like the idea of viral eradication was five years ago.

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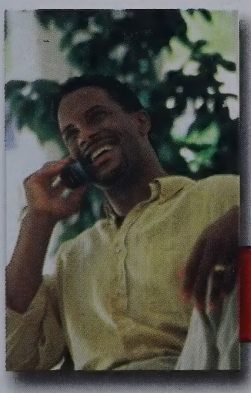

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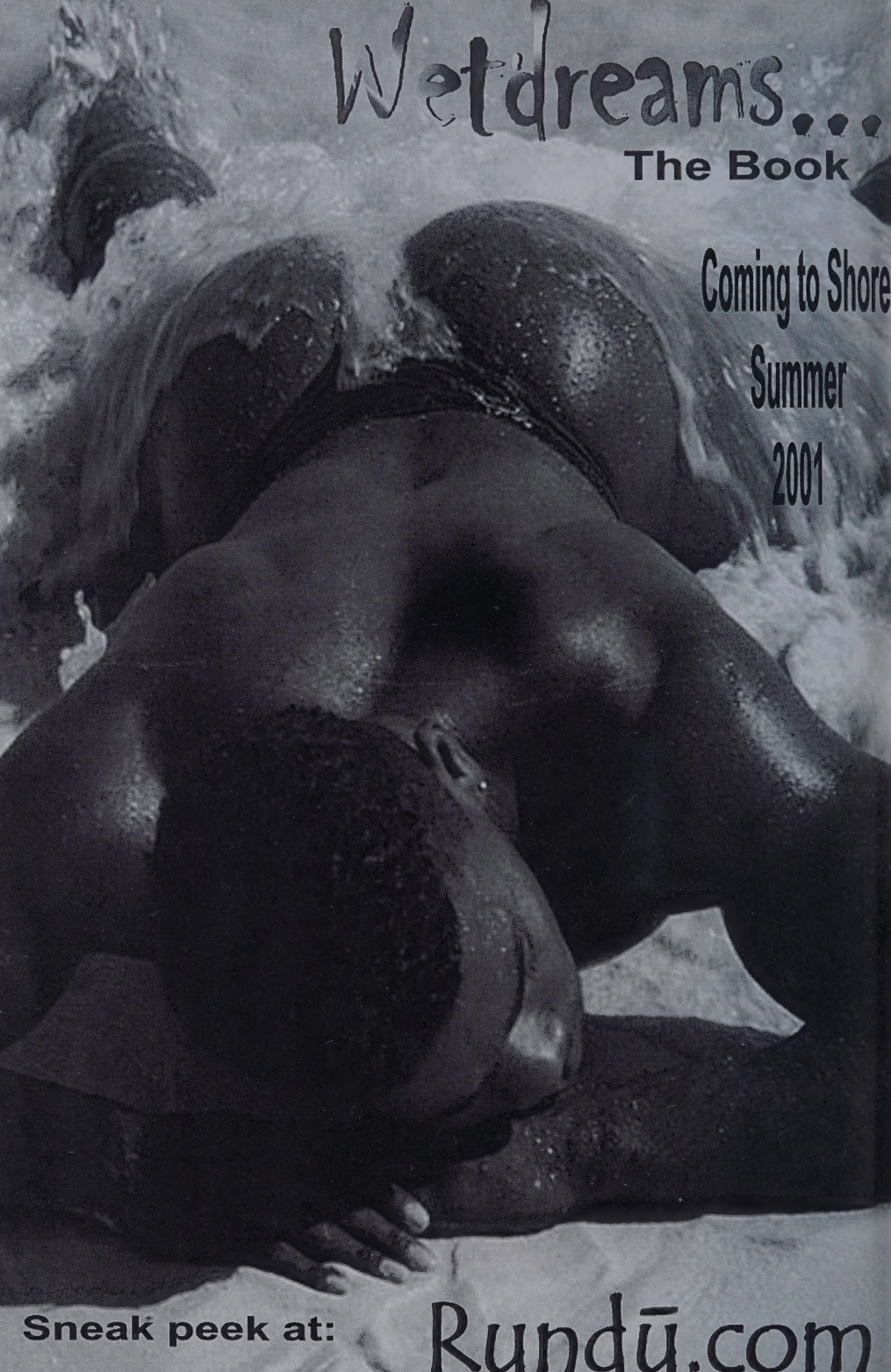
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POETRY TIME

The Next Level

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My mind is enhanced with beauty, common sense, and romance. Things in life that happen not by chance but through fate.

I have matured, because I have endured the tests and trials of life. That don't come one by one but in a large sum.

I'm going to the next level.

The things of old are exactly what I said, "Old"

For they have passed away.
I am new, I am new, behold I am new.
Not only born again as most Christians would say,
but elevated to a place that I will not stay.

I'm going to the next level.

TO THE POINT,
I did it, accomplished another goal to make my dream reality.

Settle down, I think not, for this is just another step towards where I want to be

THE NEXT LEVEL

The Song Plays On

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The words you sing, I have heard before. The melody of love I have heard to. I see the player taking the seat to give the same notes in a different style.

But everything is still the same my heart now filled with pain, to that note in your private concert.

You grace me with your new exclusive look and an attitude to conquer the world. Different you are and is what I am looking for. I am not to particular about the glamour of things, nothing to that or even more. No your not the one for me for me to adore, your no more than the others.

But everything is still the same my heart now filled with pain, to that note in your private concert.

Again I sit and write with my pen, now in total anguish preparing myself for the worst. Looking to see those same notes float out of that same piano. I want something new and please let it be true. Something unique that will hit my interest peak. Making me say that the right melody and yea you have the right key. But now it's my turn again to wait and see.

For Better For Worse

A Bubble Gum Anniversary Reflection

Have you heard the news?? Have you visited the website?? Can you believe it?? Clikque Magazine has been in existence for 3 years now & STILL going strong !!! Who knew a GLBT/SGL magazine of color would become SO popular in only thirty-six months & recommence and "live" to tell about it. To me, every issue surpasses the last issue in creativity by acquiring the reader's undivided attention consequently causing the reader to impatiently wait and want more. By far, this is truly a momentous and significant anniversary for this magazine.

When you think about it, occasions like THIS make supporting African American ventures worthwhile. Positive anniversaries to me express achievement for things "worked on". It just can't be said any other way. In a parallel sort of way, the subject of social relationships are a good representative example of anniversary achievements. One could say that they are paralleled in the sense that they take lots of hard work & dedication to maintain and sustain an inevitable disappointing break up. Everyone knows that relationships are hard to develop because the two people really have to get to know and deal with the other persons "everything." Plus, no one has to do the math to realize that in order to celebrate an anniversary the two parties in question WILL have to work things out to be a successful couple. Allow me to explain.

It is in my opinion that most people in Gay World feel relationships are hard to endure because of reality jokes such as this one – Question: What do gay men do on the 2nd date? Answer: What 2nd date ??!! (Smile). Sad to say, the way "dates" are statistically proned, it is no wonder why most people seem to indulge in A-Z "activities" in one night which dominoes to the effect of nothing to look forward to on the next unprecedented date. Not everybody, but yes to most. Most people in the "straight" world feel that relationships are pointless & futile because their straight

partners aren't being "straight" with them. For example, they may want to marry or have children, but feel they still can sexually lead both lives with men and women. I guess their (straight)ness has segregated into a "crooked" path instead. To each its own, I guess. Keep in mind that this is NOT to say that relationships can not happen or will not work. By all means, please pay close attention.

The phrase "social relationship" has various meanings to many people. To some, social relationships are just a routinely romantic or sexual involvement union. They have flings of sex and that's all there is. To others, social relationships come in the form of possessions obtained from the other party as a bartering/exchanging tool. This form can go on as long as both parties continue to satisfy each other. Let's not even talk about Swingers and Prostitution. My definition of a social relationship is where 2 people who have a commitment or connection to each other mutually work hard to:

* please, help & respect each other,
* be fair and honest with each other,
* accept each other as they really are,
* keep one's individuality yet also become one with each other,
* AND remain strong and supportive

ALL while still learning each other for better, for worse.

In this equation, one can not forget to factor in compromising personal habits with the habits of their partners as well as being thoughtfully mental, yokefully spiritual, and equally chemical with one another. The missing KEY (that seems to disappear from disinterest of having IT found) to making relationships work rests in the hands of the 2 parties involved.

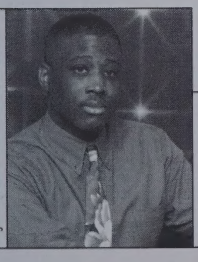
It is when and ONLY when both parties decide to really make a go of it that positive reinforcement can begin to take place. Both parties must be ON the same page IN the same section OF the same newspaper. One can not be in the LIFE section while the other is in the OBITUARIES. (True True True). It just will not work that way. But, then again, if it is meant to happen and both parties want it - IT WILL HAPPEN. I submit to you without a shadow of a doubt that the following situations of relationships CAN WORK:

* Long Distance relationships.
* Mixed Race relationships.
* Huge Age Difference relationships.
* Gay vs. Bisexual relationships.
* Those in relationships that smoke vs. those that do not smoke.
* Those into heavy sports activity vs. those not into sports AT ALL.
* Those with automobiles vs. those without automobiles.
* Those height & weight proportionate vs. those that are not, AND lastly
* Those that club all night long vs. those that hardly go or decline to club.

The following advisemental guidelines are examples of relationships that ultimately WON'T WORK and are void of any consideration of continuing the relationship:

* Don't sleep with your significant others' friends. Don't be influenced by Ricki Lake.
* Don't look at everything (with interest) that moves when in public. Just because you think your Bubble Gum is stale in a newly fresh pack doesn't mean you have to change brands of gum. Stick with your purchase & wait the time out. Chew another piece. Will

Continues On Page 63



By: **ALAN "MC" SHERMAN**

Alan "MC" Sherman, 29, resident of Atlanta, is a journalist & freelance writer. He started writing at the age of seven from which he wrote a series of little short stories & poems. He is the author of three editorial compositions published in Reader's Digest along with a impending essay in Essence Magazine. Being fascinated by words and their origins, Alan currently adds to his writing accolades, two poems published in The National Library of Poetry. He holds a bachelor's degree in English Journalism from The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Alan can be reached at alansherman@clikque.com.

To The Following People & Business, The Publisher Extends A Sincere

Thank You!

ADVERTSERS

A Floral Fantasy-Atlanta
A Touch of Class Limousine Service-Atlanta
Abbey Insurance Services-Atlanta
Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
AID Atlanta
AIDS Education & Services For Minorities
AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta
AIDS Survival Project
Allen Washington Productions
AMASSI Inc.- Oakland
At The Beach - LA
Atlanta Lambda Center
Atlanta Pharmacy & Gifts
Atlanta Pride CommitteeBackstreet Atlanta
Bam Boo Productions- Houston
Benefits America
Black Galaxy Pageantry System
Black Gay Travel- National
Bobby & Flex-Deon Blake
Bristol-Myers Squibb- Atlanta
Brother 2 Brother - Orlando
Brothers United - Nashville
Brushstrokes- Atlanta
BullDogs - Atlanta
BurkHart's- Atlanta
C. Moore Services- Atlanta
Candiland Productions- Savannah
Cee Jay- Houston
Champion Connection-Atlanta
Charles Jackson-New York
Chicago Pride Committee
Chiron-National
Chocolate City-National
Club City Lights-Jackson
Club Colours - Atlanta
Club Colours-Richmond
Club Diversite-DC
Club Extreme-Houston
Club Fusion-Atlanta
Club Jaguars-Atlanta
Club NV-Dallas
Club Rarity - Atlanta
Club Tru Colours - Savannah
Continental Pageantry System
Copeland Syndor Group- New York
Cotton States Insurance- Atlanta
Cruise Depot, Inc – Florida
Damrons-National
Diva & Productions- Atlanta
Dream A Little Online
Dreamworks Records
DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company
Ebony Male Tours & Travel
E.D.'s Gourmet Records- Atlanta
Elliot Productions- Houston
Exploremen.com
Family Time Entertainment- Houston
Fat Boy Follies- Montgomery
FINASSISTCO.- Miami
Flex- Atlanta
Gateway Publishing- Atlanta
Gay Black Male Magazine
Georgia Equality Project
Girls In The Night- Atlanta
Goodness Gracious Florals & Gifts- Detroit
Greater Atlanta Business Coalition
Groove ENTERTAINMENT- Miami
Harbour Point Funding (Rob)
Heavy Diva Productions- Chicago
Hotlanta Softball League- Atlanta
Houston Splash
Hudson Medical Group- Atlanta
In The Life Atlanta
Incognito The Club- Houston
Industrial Strength Massage - Atlanta
International Pageantry System
Ishai Books- Tampa
J2K & TRE's Productions- Atlanta
J & J Productions- Atlanta
J & W Productions- Atlanta
K.C. Productions - Chicago
Kay Mitchell Life Insurance- Atlanta
Ken Kyle Beauty Studio/Cosmetics- Detroit
KLR Entertainment-San Francisco
Lamancha Video.com
Latroys-Birmingham
Loretta's- Atlanta
LP Entertainment
MANSTYLE- Atlanta
Man To Man Productions- DC
Maxine Blue Productions- Atlanta
Memphis Pride Committee
Men of Color- Detroit
Metro 2000- Dallas
Metro Brokers Real Estate - Trey
Micheal Christopher Books
Midtowne Spa- Houston
Midwest AIDS Prevention Project
Miracle of Love
Miss National Pageantry System
Mitchell Viatical Services- Atlanta
Moore Unique Skin Care - Houston
Mr. & Ms. Black America Pageantry
Mr. & Ms. Black Universe Pageantry
Mr. & Miss Black Vogue
Mr. & Ms. Gay Black USA
Mr. & Ms. Northern States
Miss Continental Pageantry System
Much Luv Entertainment - AtlantaN-Cognito Night Club- Memphis
National Minority AIDS Council
National Viator Representatives,INC.
New Attitude Club- Greenville
New Boston Staffing- Atlanta
One Life Productions- Atlanta
Outreach Inc.- Atlanta
Outwrite Bookstore- Atlanta
People of Color Coalition INC.- Tampa
Phebe's Southern Cuisine Catering
Pin Up's- Atlanta
PlanetOut.com
Pride Medical- Atlanta
Rainbow Investments
Rainbow- video + music- Atlanta
Rande Rochelle Productions- Houston
Rascals Night Club- Houston
Red Kat Productions
Renaissance III- Dallas
Rivendell Marketing- New Jersey
Rundü - Atlanta
Shadow Grafix- Atlanta
SisterLove, INC.- Atlanta
SMIRNOFF- Citrus Twist
Songmaster BGC Cruises-San Francisco
Soular Books- DC
Spiritual Lighthouse Ministries & Church- Atlanta
Statscript Pharmacy- Atlanta
Strongarm Productions - Detroit
Sunthing Different / Private Eyes - Atlanta
T.H. Charters- Houston
Tampa AIDS Network
The Atlanta Pride Committee, INC.
The Balm & Gilead
The City of Houston
The Edge/Wet Nightclub - DC
The Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
The Generator- Chicago
The House of Ebony- Atlanta
The House of Bvlgari- Detroit
The National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum
The Palace- Atlanta
The Otherside- Atlanta
The Rails Entertainment Group- Chicago
The Sequel- Atlanta
The Velvet Room / Wonderland
The Warehouse- NYC
Tracks- DC
TRAXX- Atlanta
Trinity Church of Religious Tyrone Spenser (Cage/Jenny's) - Washington DC
Science – Atlanta
U-Men-U-Sweat- New York
Unity Pride Splash- Houston
Us Helping Us- DC
Vaxgen- National
Viggiano Interiors- Detroit
WHAZZUP! MAGAZINE
YAMS Productions- Atlanta
Youth Pride – Atlanta
Windy City Black Pride
Winter Explosion Getaway
www.blackmen.net - Atlanta
www.Blackpassport.com
www.cocoboyz.com
www.planetout.com
www.qsjoint.com - Chicago
Zeal Productions / Martell

Thank You!

To The Following People, The Publisher Extends A Sincere

MODELS

Adrian
Allegra
Andre Mizrahi
Anthony
Antonio Cortez
Billy
BJ
Brooks
Carl Dugue
Carlos
Carley - Aug 2000
Chaka
Cory Scott
Dejong - Aug 2000
DJ Kem
Doris
Gary Dourdan
George King
Gina Ravera
Gretchen Palmer
Jasmine Bonet
Jeffrey
Jemahld
Juan Lyles
Keith Hunter
Keith Kennard
Kenneth
Keno - April 2000
Kenya Moore
Kevin Smith
Kimla Mouton
Kyle Ean
Lance Forrest
Maceo
Marcus - April 2000
Micheal
Micheal Harris
Monte St. James
Mykle
Necole Luv Dupree
Nestor Zapata
Nicole - Aug 2000
Pepper LaBeija
Persuation - June 2000
Preston
Randy - April 2000
RC
Red
Rod Martin
Roger Johnson
Sandy / FLEX
Stasha Sanchez
Stephanie - Aug 2000
Stephanie Kellogg
Taj
Taylor Mabrie
Terrance MaGee
Teryl-Lynn Fox
Thando Kafele
Tim Bolhar
Tommy LaBeija
Tybias
Tyrone
Undru Gray
Victor Alexander
Whitney Mugler

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Christopher, Michael
Crappilicchio, Rev.
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Hoskins, Curdell "Doc"
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Pugh, Lorenzo
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Welch, LaRieko
White, DuVaune
Whitley, Michael
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Williams, Jaqua
Williams, Malik
Wilson, Phill

FORMER STAFF

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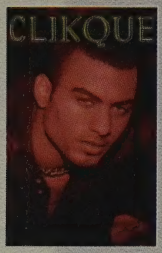
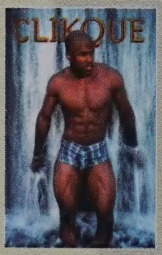
Cooper, Candie
Farmer, Ren
King, Jason
McCarthy, Andrew
McCoy, Rodney
Moch, Darryl
Nicholson, Lewis
Sneed, Roger
Spence, Nikki-Ann
Vinson-Linzy, Shannon



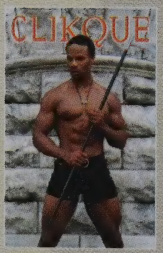
MAY1998

JUN1998

JUL1998



AUG/SEPT1998



OCT1998

It was an unusually hot day in Houston, for the end of April in 1998, when Clikque Magazine appeared on the scene. Ironically the hot weather may have been a foreshadowing of the very nature of Clikque as it would quickly rise to the top of the reading lists for African-American GLBT/SGL people. On this second anniversary we are proud to present the "mile stones" of Clikque as seen through the covers, people, and events that have brought Clikque to being the nation's #1 monthly publication for same gender loving people of African descent. From modest beginnings and a much smaller circulation, in Houston, to the ever expanding presence in the community, nationwide Clikque is now represented in nearly every market in the nation (with at least minimal distribution in every major city in America and several international destinations. Saturating the community, with a current circulation of over 25,000+, Clikque currently enjoys a growing subscription base that spans the globe and has been able to attract major sponsors including pharmaceutical companies, health organizations, pageantry systems, and some of America's hottest dance and party spots.

A magazine, "for him & for her," Clikque has been successful largely because of the persistence, stamina and dedication of it's owner, Dwight Powell. Our extensive list of fine writers and artists who have committed their time and talent towards the magazine are also great forces for the quick success of Clikque Magazine. In return Clikque has and will continue to give back by exposing new and emerging artists; as well as, offering space for our greatest stars to showcase their works and wares. **Clikque's prominence is based on the fact that it offers a new fresh approach of highlighting the lives of African American members of the GLBT/SGL community with style, class, and fierce flare!**

Here's what happened milestone by milestone.

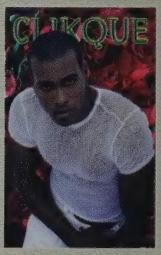
May 1998

A Star is born in Clikque Magazine as your complete news, information, and entertainment guide for African-American GLBT/SGL people

NOV1998

DEC1998

JAN1999



FEB1999

MAR1999

and the community that serves them. Clikque served as the Official Guide to Houston Splash '98 with Rande Rochelle featured as a legend in the making.

June 1998

Clikque living up to its motto "for him and for her" features its first female cover model, Kimla Mouton. Not only built for beauty but also an entrepreneur with her partner Shirley as co-owners of Club Extreme in Houston.

July 1998

Clikque continues it's representation of the community by featuring the face of all faces Legendary Whitney Mugler from the House of Mugler. TRAXX becomes Atlanta's first major club to embrace Clikque magazine as a major advertiser and supporter.

August/Sept. 1998

■ Clikque explodes into the market of Black Prides. After covering several events this year Clikque serves as the Official Magazine for Atlanta's Black Gay Pride Celebration. The body and bulge, of George King is featured on the cover which is still recognized today as the Clikque's most demanded cover, to date.

■ Believing Clikque could better serve the entire community with contracts and opportunities in the "Black Gay Mecca" Clikque Magazine moves it's home base to Atlanta operating out of the home of the publisher.

October 1998

Niesha Dupree- Legendary Mother of Atlanta is featured in Clikque along with the internationally known Champions Models Calendar owner Lance, stands Guard as cover model.

November 1998

The Supreme Legend Pepper LaBeija, mother of the House of LaBeija is featured on the cover and offers insight into his life and the Ball world in the cover story.

December 1998

Clikque features three new faces of the month the very enticing Terrance MaGee, Stephanie Kellogg, and Monté St. James, the newly crowned Mr. Black Universe.

January 1999

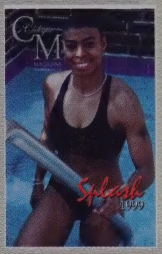
Clikque features Stewart Ebony legendary mother of the House of Ebony.

February 1999

Clikque serves as the official magazine for the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum's convention held in Atlanta. Clikque cameras captured many of the nation's most prominent leaders. Gay and allies converged on the city of diversity to continue celebrating the strides many of our leaders have made in society. Clikque magazine was the only publication allowed to photograph Regina Belle's concert, which was the grand finale of the entire weekend.

March 1999

The graceful, lovely, and inspirational Necole Luv Dupree join the cover model alumni as the first female impersonator to appear on the cover of Clikque. Necole in her own dramatic flare shocks the nation with her stark presentation and deft style..Fierce.



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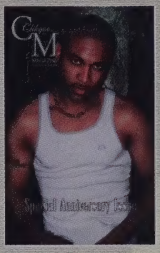
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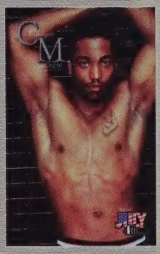
JUN1999

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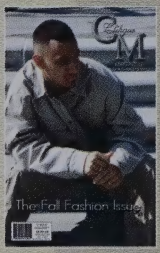


NOV\1999

DEC\1999

JAN2000

April 1999

Fresh with a new look Clikque continues to grow as the nations most widely sought after monthly publication for the Black Gay community. For the first time Clikque produces an 80 page spread.

■ Clikque features the stud model, FLEX, on the cover

•Clikque was on hand to capture "The Stars of the Century" as the world witnessed the birth of the nation's hottest entertainment show spectacle hosted by the hilarious Sophia McIntosh and the effervescent Dominique Rashad.

■ Clikque Magazine celebrates it's 1st year anniversary at Traxx which features recording legend Miki Howard as special guest performer.

May 1999

■ Clikque Magazine Owner and Publisher of Clikque Magazine is featured on the cover of the First Anniversary Issue.

■ The Anniversary issue unveils a 3 page fold out cover never before seen, and as yet not duplicated, by any other African American publication.

■ Clikque makes waves at Houston Splash '99 producing it's first anniversary pool party. Clikque's largest event was deemed a huge success.

• June 1999

The man and muscle of Maceo heat up the cover while the bodacious body of Allegra heats up the inside along with the Champion Connection featuring some of the most "phine" men and women to walk the runway in a fashion showcase.

•July 1999

Clikque hosts its first prelim for Mr & Ms. Clikque America. Tijuanna Brooks becomes the first Ms. Clikque Houston.

August 1999

This issue was Clikque's most lucrative due to advertisements from sponsors and a special fold out ad created for TRAXX-Atlanta. Traxx's add mesmerized the nation as it advertised it's upcoming events and specials for September pride in Atlanta.

September 1999

Clikque presents it's most equally balanced issue featuring male and female interests throughout the pages of the most sought after publication in America.

October 1999

■ Tampa Jamz announced by Clikque. Slated for June 2000 LWilliam Cosby was selected as the first Tampa Jamz event model.

■ Clikque joins in the march for a cure as it becomes a big promoter of AIDS Walk Atlanta. Clikque organized a team of walkers and promoted the event through out the pages of Clikque.

■ Clikque also produced the most comprehensive AIDS report ever produced by an African American publication. Refusing to continue ignoring the impact of HIV/AIDS on the total African American community Clikque offers a unique perspective and report of the devastation of HIV/AIDS on women, children/youth, men, and families. Clikque's viewpoint included

looking at the statistics within both the gay and heterosexual communities.

November 1999

■ Clikque moves into its first office space in the heart of Mid-town Atlanta.

■ Clikque produced it's largest issue to date, featuring Nestor Zapata, Clikque's Business/Office Manager and Cover coordinator. This issue boasted 96 pages of information, news, and entertainment "for him & for her."

■ Clikque, along with the nation, said goodbye to the world renowned Loretta's Nightclub and welcomed it's successor "The Sequel" to the scene; continuing to offer Atlanta's nightlife variety and spice.

December 1999

■ Moving from just a magazine that encourages support of organizations Clikque raised donations for the first time to support local AIDS service organizations.

■ Legendary Father of the House of Mizrahi, André Mizrahi featured on the cover.

January 2000

Clikque produced the first Mr. & Ms. Clikque America Pageant. Two star studded nights of competition saw the best and the brightest of the nations female impersonators and male entertainers grace the stages either as contestants or as entertainers. Preliminary night was held at the World Famous Traxx nightclub and finals were held at Georgia State University's Rialto Theatre.

■ Terryl-Lynn Foxx and Tim Bolhar were crowned as the first title holders with Sasha Valentino and Damien Kelly as first runners up.

■ Chiron becomes the first pharmaceutical company to embrace Clikque Magazine with an advertising contract, through the help of Don Sneed, executive director of Renaissance III in Dallas.

February 2000

Clikque sells it's first cover featuring the stars of the movie "Trois". Clikque offers exposure of the gay community to mainstream African-America while also offering our opinion of the first feature African American film in 2000 to delve in anyway into the arena of sexual diversity.

March 2000

Clikque makes what may now become an annual face lift as it promotes its current reigning King and Queen Mr and Ms. Clikque America 2000 on the cover.

• Clikque presents its launch party in New Orleans spearheaded by our reigning Queen Ms. Terryl-Lynn Foxx.

April 2000

Clikque hosts it's anniversary parties in Atlanta at Fusion and Traxx. Clikque Hosts the "Marvines" art exhibit at the Martini Bar in Midtown Atlanta during its anniversary weekend.

May 2000

■ Clikque unleashed a 102 page anniversary issue featuring the magazine's owner Dwight Powell.

■ Clikque joined in the Houston Splash 2000 festivities by hosting its annual Anniversary Pool Party at Clikque's host hotel Sheraton-

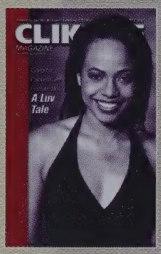
FEB2000

MAR2000

APRIL2000

MAY2000

JUNE2000

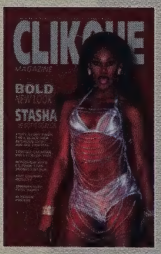


JULY1999

AUG1999

SEPT/OCT1999

JAN/FEB1991



MAR2001

Brookhollow. While the crowd laughed at the antics of Sophia McIntosh who was joined by Clikque staff and Ms. Clikque America 2000, Teryl-Lynn Foxx. As promised Clikque offered it's guests a great smattering of fun, food, and the fabulous as men and women struck up conversations and made connections.

June 2000

■ Clikque presented its Tampa Jamz 2000 festivities in Tampa, Florida, June 9-11. As promised Clikque offered it's guests great fun in the sun. With guests from around the country and the world Tampa was on fire with our light as we lit up the Tampa skyline with our own flare of excitement.

Our guests were welcomed at our meet and greet reception where we struck up conversations and made connections. Then we traveled over to the Factory/Garage where our fabulous folk danced the night away with two fun filled rooms of house, hip-hop and dance tracks.

On Saturday we found our spot in the sun at the Ft. DeSoto Beach, Clikque gave away subscriptions, trips to next year's Splash and this year's Labor Day activities in our home Hotlanta, along with other cash and prizes including feature model search, body contests, and the wet speedo contest. Of course we tapped off the night with a great Citrus Twist event co-sponsored by Smirnoff where we gave away free samples of Citrus Twist drinks and we danced into oblivion at Club Atlanta.

On Sunday we joined the crowds and braved intermittent douses of rain as we took on the adventures at Busch Gardens.

■ Mid America enjoyed its 5th annual BGP in the historic city of Memphis, TN. Home of Beale Street, the Lorraine Motel/National Civil Rights Museum, and all the BBQ and Blues you can take along the Mississippi River. The owners and management of Club N-Cognito again presented the rip roaring, hee-haw, rodeo adventure west of the Mississippi.

With some of the greatest in female impersonation, male dancers, and "glowing" female dancers the surprises and adventures were non-stop all weekend. Clikque teamed up with N-Cognito and presented the annual pool party, a local favorite. We were joined by the men and flesh of Fellas Magazine, adding a bit of hot sauce for your tastes. The legendary Tommie Ross, a national treasure and icon joined in the festivities as well.

July 2000

After signing on earlier in the year as a major sponsor of the Chicago Black Pride, th magazine made it's presence felt at the various pride events in a huge way. Presentation was everything. For the first time, folks in the Windy City got a chance to mingle with the movers and shackers of one of America's most informative and entertaining SGL publications... Clikque.

August 2000

■ The Labor Day Issues has always been one of the more lucrative issues for the magazine and, this years was no exception. Readers were treated to a 102 stunning issue with included a 6

page foldout from the cover. The cover wa said by many to be the most inclusive SGL cover ever offered by Clikque.

September 2000

The publisher of Clikque Magazine announced that he would be offering another publication for our SGL community. The magazine would be Banjee Magazine, an all male nude publication that would compete with Black Inches.

October 2000

■ The magazine takes a short break from publishing Clikque to to focus attention on their new venture Banjee.

■ The decision to temporary stop publishing Clikque was welcomed by harsh criticism from Clikque's supporters and advertisers. However, the decision was short-lived after Banjee was unleashed in January of 2001.

■ Today both magazines are managing to co-exist with major problems. The publishers decision proved to be a lucrative one; the first issue of Banjee sold-out and orders for the second issued doubled.

January 2001

■ Clikque offered it's first issue since October of 2000. The cover featured R&B artist Monifah.

■ Atlanta witnessed the crowning of the second Miss Clikque America. Among names such as Necole Luv Dupree and Jasmine Bonet, Memphis' own Tenisha Casadine walked away with the crown. Congrats to our new Miss Cliqkue America 2001. Clikque pageantry organizers again proved that they will continue to present an honest and fair system...

• February 2001

■ Cliqkue Magazine signs on as a major sponsor of the Black Winter Explosion held in New York.

■ Clikque Magazine was the proud recipient of the Lorde-Beam Literary Award – Best Same Gender Loving Publication of 2000. The award was presented to the magazine at the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum conference held in Oakland California, by Bookhousecafe.com

■ Magazine struggles to stay in business after a few major financial setbacks. Huge drops in advertisement sales was a major factor for the financial setbacks.

March 2001

■ Keeping up with the time and artist styles of the day, Clikque gives it's cover a face-lift.

■ This month's cover featured the beautiful and talented Stasha Sanchez. Miss Stasha became the third female impersonator to grace the cover of Clikque Magazine. Necole Luv Dupree and Teryl-Lynn Foxx were the first and second.

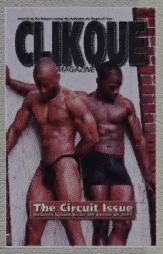
■ Magazine offered one of the strongest editorial issues ever produced by Clikque Magazine.

April 2001

■ Magazine begins to win back the support of readership and advertisers as it gets back on track with it's offering of the Nation's only monthly SGL publication for people of color.

■ Magazine features one of the sexiest covers ever shot for Clikque Magazine.

APR2001



MAY2001

It gets better every year.

Easily the hottest Black pride celebration in the Midwest.

Windy City Black LGBT, Inc.

"Unity In Pride"

Chicago June 29- July 4, 2001

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Cleansing The Mind

By Dwight Powell, Publisher
Clikque Magazine

I am sure that most of you have heard the cliché, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste". Now, have you every asked yourself, how does one "waste" their minds? Is the mind "wasted" when it's not utilized constructively? Is it "wasted" when consumed by toxins such as alcohol and drugs? Is it "wasted" when rarely it's encouraged to analyze other points of views. Is it "wasted" when not allowed to take-on new, challenging experiences? Or is the mind "wasted" when not encouraged to express, show and feel love.

Frankly, I would have to suggest that all of the above are some of the ways that we tend to "waste" our minds, and ultimately ourselves.

As we get older (not necessarily grow older) we tend to become complacent. Moreover, we tend to be more "set in our ways", as it pertains to our actions and the ways in which we think. What do think might happen if you allowed yourself to go beyond the norm, the expected, and the typical you. Well, until you rid yourself of that mundane routine; until you open your mind to new ideas, thoughts, and experiences, well, you'll never know.

I'm not suggesting that you go out and become an entirely different person. Merely, I'm suggesting that you allow your mind to take-in new ideas, evaluate them and then react or not act. The fact that the ideas were considered and evaluated was in my opinion sufficient.

Now a little cleansing thought for you mind. Your thoughts have a direct relationship with the way that you feel. Try being stressed out without first having stressful thoughts – or angry without first have angry thoughts – jealous without thoughts of jealousy. You can't do it. Unhappiness doesn't and can't exist on its own. Unhappiness is the feeling that accompanies negative thinking about your life. In the absence of that thinking, the unhappiness, or stress, or jealousy can't exist. So the next time that you're upset, notice your thinking. This realization allows you go about your day with ease. – Mind over matter.

LOS ANGELES BLACK GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE PRESENTS

Black Beach and Midnight Sun

Since 1988, Shorey, Inc., At The Beach (ATB) have hosted an Annual Beach and Unity Celebration at Point Dume Beach in Malibu, California. This annual event takes place during the 4th of July weekend. It is a weekend filled with networking forums to increase awareness in social, health and economic development. We celebrate pride and diversity in our community.

In November of 2000 ATB reorganized as the official At The Beach Los Angeles Black Gay Pride, a 501(c) 3 not for profit organization. We are extremely excited about this new chapter in our history and the benefit it will bring to the entire local, national and international African American Lesbian and Gay community.

Weekend Schedule:

June 28th (Thursday)

Conference Series
"Opportunity - Self Empowerment"
@Los Angeles Airport Hilton Hotel – 9 AM

June 29th (Friday)

Welcome Reception – "Total Eclipse"
@ Los Angeles Airport Hilton Hotel 6 PM

June 30th (Saturday)

Beach Party "Black's Beach"
@Point DUME in Malibu California – 7 AM to Dusk.

After Parties
Men are from Venus, Women are from Mars
@ Los Angeles Airport Hilton Hotel – 10:00 PM to 4 PM

July 1st (Sunday)

Barbecue "Meteor" We promise more meat.
@ Culver Studio –
336 Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA.
1:00 PM to 8:00 PM

July 2nd (Monday)

Literary Cafe
"Literary Cafe Stars" @ Lucy Florence Cafe 6 PM

July 3rd (Tuesday)

Film Festival – "Fade to Black"
@ Los Angeles Airport Hilton Hotel Time TBA

The weekend passport is $65 before June 15, 2001 and $75 after June 15. The passport will allow you into all ATB sponsored events and the VIP Lounge along with receiving this years official T-shirt. It has a value of $100.
To reserve your weekend pass make check payable to At The Beach. Mail to:

At The Beach
3765 Motor Ave. #126
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Your pass will be held for you at ATB's reception desk starting June 28th.

The theme for the 13th Annual Unity Celebration is Black's Beach and the Midnight Sun. Festivities begin June 28th through July 4th.

American Airlines @ (800) 433 1790 is the offical airline for the beach party. CODE A3861BG.

Avis Car Rental @ (800) 331 1600 is the offical car rental company. CODE J097330.

Remember to reserve you hotel space by calling the Los Angeles Airport Hilton. Their telephone number is 310 410 4000. Ask for the $80 per night ATB rate.
FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: ATB LA@AOL.COM

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LOS ANGELES AIRPORT HILTON HOTEL Call 310-410-4000 and ask for Special $80 ATB Rate
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Phone: 323-293-4ATB Email: atbla@aol.com Web: www. atbla.com

LOS ANGELES BLACK GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE PRESENTS

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810.963.5856
Snail Mail:
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Detroit, MI 48231
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www.hotterthanjuly.com
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HTJ! 2001
ONE VILLAGE - ONE VOICE!
Photo provided by Curtis Lipscomb Collection, Design by NoirDesignCo., Detroit 313.567.1863

Cleansing The Soul

By Karen Clark-Sheard
From her album Finally Karen Clark-Sheard

I would go on throughout my day - I thought I was okay
But I really didn't have commitment

I was prestige in many eyes
They didn't see me cry
I really could hide my torment

Though it seemed I was fine
It continued all the time
I'm only human and the pressure is getting to me

I just can't take it no more
My strength has walked out the door
And it left me and told me
I can't go no more

I just can't take it no more
I just want to lay down and die
God if you hear me - come near me
You're my only hope

I wish I had another chance -
I would fervently seek you hand
I would've survived the avalanche
I didn't see the road to take so
I gave my life away
Now there's no way I can pray from a grave

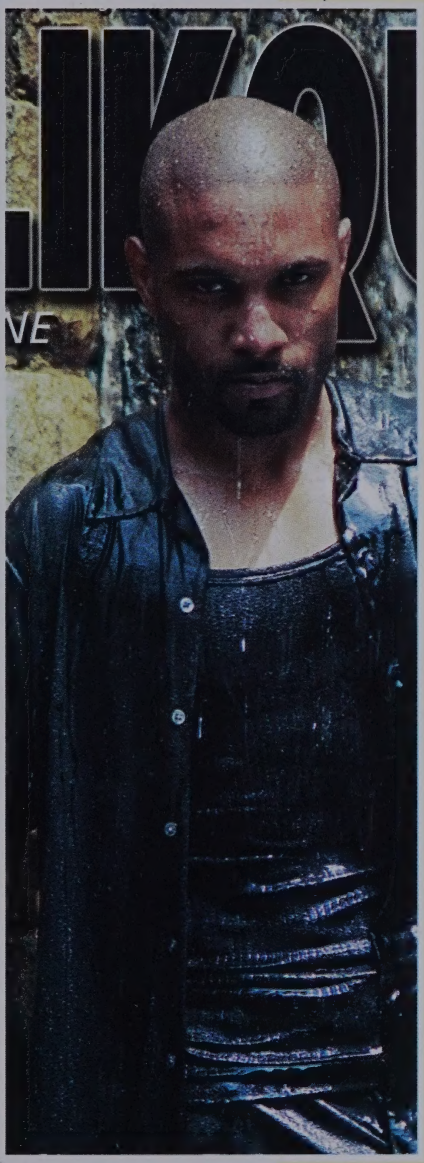
Though it seemed I was fine
It continued all the time
I'm only human and the pressure is getting to me

I just can't take it no more
My strength has walked out the door
And it left me and told me
I can't go no more

You've got to take a little more
Your strength has walked out the door
And it left you and told you
it can't go no more

You've got to take a little more
you might want to lay down and die
just know that God hears you - He's near you
He's your only hope

Listen to me - You can do all things if you
turn to the one who's made you
You've got to Talk A Little More



Who

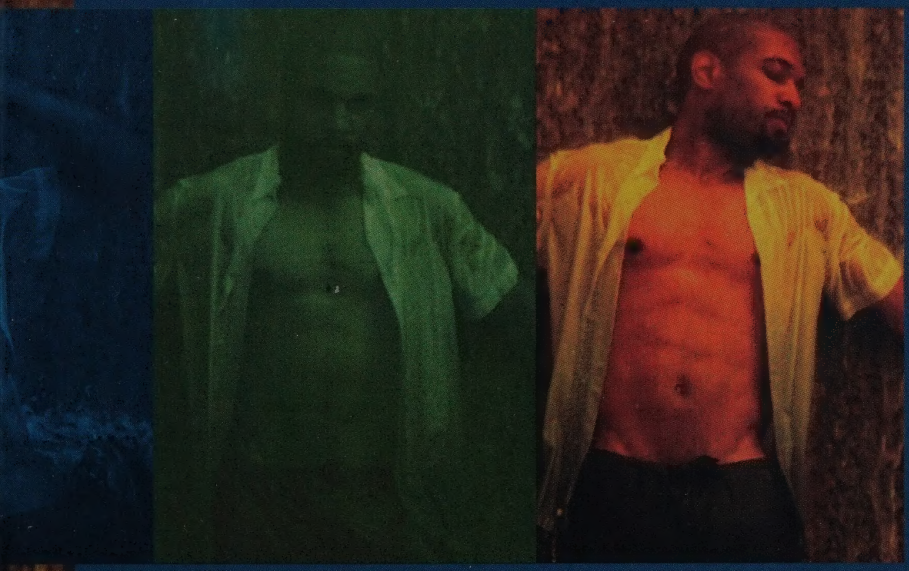
Is Dwight S. Powell?

During the past 3 years, photo and editorials by Dwight Powell, Owner of Clikque Magazine, have been featured in this publication on several occasions. He's often presented his thoughts and ideas, but never himself. With this being our 3rd year anniversary issue, we thought that it is now time that you learn a little more about the person that has been hard at work for you.

Birthplace:.....Nassau, Bahamas
Day of Birth: .....2nd February, 1970
Education:.....Florida State University
Favorite Magazine: .....CODE Magazine
Favorite City To Visit: ....South Beach, Fl.
Favorite Ice Cream: .....Blue Bell Cookies & Cream
Favorite Cuisine.....Thai
Favorite Color: .....Black
Admires Most: .....Late Aunt - Peggy
Favorite Actor: .....Harrison Ford
Favorite R&B Artist: .....Regina Belle
Favorite Labels: .....DKNY, AIX, AF
Favorite TV Program: .....OZ (HBO)

Upon meeting Mr. Powell for the first time, most are surprised to find that he stands-in at only 5'7", 150 pounds – He appears much taller and bigger on print. There is much that one can say about Mr. Powell. As with most artists and creative people, Mr. Powell admits that he's a perfectionist. A trait he now looks at as a flaw, since he's rarely satisfied with his work... Work that many deems exceptional. Representing Black gays around the world in an extremely positive way via Clikque Magazine, like Stanley Bennett Clay (SBC) and Charlene Cothran (Venus Magazine), Mr Powell continues to dedicated his existence towards the growth, betterment and uplifting of our SGL community of color.

After moving to Atlanta from Houston in the Summer of 1998, Mr. Powell took on Clikque Magazine as his only full(fun)-time career. This was done in an attempt to continue rendering a voice and venue for discussion and information to our SGL communities.



Photos By Jerry Boles

3rd Year Anniversary Issue • May 1998 – May 2001 • Collector's Edition • Clikque Magazine

DC Black Pride EXPO 2001

Washington, DC

Black Pride is a major 4-day event during Memorial Day weekend in Washington, DC, which attracts more than 10,000 Black Lesbians and Gay men from around the country and the world.

Organized in 1991 as a one-day event, Black Pride is now the largest Black Gay & Lesbian Festival in the world attracting attendees from every major urban area in the U.S. as well as participants from Canada, England, Germany and the Netherlands.

Black Pride is coordinated by Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, Inc. (BLGPD) a non-profit organization consisting of a volunteer Executive Board. The BLGPD Executive Board meets regularly to design and implement policy related to Black Pride activities, to organize fundraisers on behalf of the Black Pride and to build awareness of the Black Pride weekend. BLGPD has an office located within the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force in Washington, DC.

The Black Pride annual operation budget comes primarily from individual donations, community fundraisers, fees associated with vending and advertising around the Memorial Day weekend events, and sales of tickets for those events. In 1997, BLGPD began soliciting institutional and corporate sponsors. In 1998, Black Pride sold out its host hotel, added an official travel agency, and web site and began a quarterly newsletter. Also in 1998 Black Pride received commendation from the White House, the Mayor□s office and the Washington, DC City Council.

The Mission of BLGPD is to build awareness of and pride in the diversity of the Black lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community as well as to create a funding source and support for organizations that are addressing HIV/AIDS and other health issues adversely affecting our community. Proceeds from Black Pride events are distributed to HIV/AIDS and other health service organizations serving the African American community in the Washington, Dc area.

DC
PRIDE 2001
MAY 24-27

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2001

Seville Williams & Company invite you to come feel the...

Heat

DC Memorial Weekend
Black & Latino Pride Celebration

Main Floor:
Andre' Collins (The Warehouse-nyc)
DJ Skinny G (KINGDOM-dc)

Black Velvet Lounge:
Fred Pierce (Brooklyn Cafe-nyc)

Outdoor Patio:
T-Pro (Escuelita-nyc) Blazing Hip Hop+R&B

Free Vodka Drinks 9pm - 10pm
Live Entertainment: TBA
Hot dancers from NY, Philly, Atlanta, and DC
Urban Heat Fashion Show by Andrew Nowell

Hosts:
Charles Jackson, Larry, Joe & Junior/Warehouse-nyc
Seville, Dimitri, Brandee, Adam, Elton

NATION

1015 Half St. SE · Washington, DC

state-of-the art sound/lighting * partying space for 5,000
secured parking for over 1,000 cars * plush v.i.p. lounge
doors: 9pm to 6am · 21+ w/id

Advance Ticket Outlets:
Lambda Rising (DC), Ticketmaster,
ticketmaster.com, NATION box office.
All advance ticket holders receive priority entrance.
Call (202) 518-2534 for Platinum VIP tickets -
with open bar all night, appetizers, entertainment,
private access to plush VIP Lounge & more.

Travel/Rental Car Arrangements:
Call Regina @ (301) 441-4663 or 1-877-365-6716.
Hotel: Homewood Suites: (202) 265-8000 or 1-800-225-5466;
mention code: SWP/Seville Productions

Info:
mochamale.com or email: BlackPrideParty@yahoo.com
Phone: 917.447.1565 (nyc) 202.518-2534 (dc)

Next MAGAZINE CHOCLATINO ebonymale CLIKQUE MAGAZINE

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"A 6 year traditi

THE EDGE and WET

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Black Gay Pric

Thurs May 24 WW Connection Present "Ladies Nigh
Hosted by Willette and Woo Woo. Featuring the best in
erotic performers. DJ Lady Tawanna.

Fri May 25 Special Event: Filming of"Twisted Tour
kickoff and live performances!! Also featuring "District Hou
DJ Sedrick, DJ Chris "Music Maestro" Johnson (L.A.), DJ T-Pro (
and DJ Victor Martinez (DC)

Sat May 26 Sophisticated Ladies Present "Soft an
DC's largest afternoon Ladies party with over 60 female dancers

Sat pm May 26 Men 4 Men East Coast sounds by DJ M.K
DJ Andre Collins (NY), DJ Carl Mathews (DC), and DC's own DJ

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info @: www.edgewet.com

n, better than ever!"

Night Clubs invite you to

y Weekend 2001

e Washington DC

Sun May 27 The Return of TRACKS
One night only the legendary sounds that made it great with DJ Wesley, DJ Sedrick, DJ Albert Lee, and DJ Chris Johnson.

Mon May 28 His-n-Her COOKOUT
All- you-can-eat with the sounds of DJ Brooklyn (NY).

Mon May 28 TnT Entertainment present
Afro-Diziac. A night of elegance with dancing and exotic male and female dancers.

Tues May 29 "Hot Chocolate" Grand Finale
This will be your last chance to party @ DC's #1 male party!!

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NY)
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Afro-American Dancers

52 L ST. SE, Washington DC phone: 202-488-1200

Black Pride Expo

Information Provided Courtesy Of Clikque Magazine
America□s Leading Source For Black Gay Pride Information
THE OFFICIAL BLACK PRIDE PARTY SCHEDULE

THURSDAY MAY 24TH

The Hospitality Suite

6 PM to 8 PM @ The Renaissance Hotel
The Hospitality Suite will be open for early arrivals to pick up VIP and Party Passes, Black Pride EXPO tickets, Talent Show sign up and tickets Black Pride sponsors information, maps of Washington, DC, official Black Pride T-shirts and magazines, etc

FRIDAY MAY 25TH

Meet and Greet

6:00 PM to 8 PM @ The Renaissance Hotel
Wine and cheese reception at the host hotel with local elected officials and dignitaries socializing with Black LGBTs from around the nation. This event is free to VIP Pass holders, $10 for non VIP Pass holders.

Midnight Cruise

11:30 PM to 2:30 PM
There is only a limited amount of individual Midnight Cruise tickets available. The Midnight Cruise tickets can also be purchased as part of the VIP package. Transportation will be available to the Midnight Cruise from the Renaissance Hotel starting at 10:30 PM. There will also be transportation back to the Renaissance Hotel at the conclusion of the Midnight Cruise. Transportation is free for VIP pass holders and $10 R/T for non-VIP pass holders.

SATURDAY MAY 26TH

BRUNCH @ The Renaissance Hotel

11 AM - 2 PM $25.00
The popular Black Pride Brunch will include juices, breads, tradition breakfast and brunch items (e.g. pasta salads) as well as vegetarian selections. VIP pass holders may select either a Saturday brunch or Sunday brunch as part of the VIP Pass package.

WORKSHOPS @ The Renaissance Hotel

10 AM - 4 PM Free
Black Pride has once again planned a series of workshops and discussion groups on relevant issues for members of the Black LGBT community. The workshops will include issues of LGBT youth, men□s, transgender and women□s discussion groups, financial planning, the International Federation of Black Prides annual meetings, etc. Watch this web-site for updated information and times.

The Hospitality Suite

12 PM to 8 PM @ The Renaissance Hotel
The Hospitality Suite will be open for those who wish to pick up VIP and Party Passes, Black Pride EXPO tickets, Talent Show sign up and tickets Black Pride sponsors Information, maps of Washington, DC, official Black Pride T-shirts and magazines, sign up for the Talent Show, volunteers, etc.

TALENT SHOW/DANCE

@ The Renaissance Hotel
8 PM - 1AM $10
Black Pride will host our first Talent Show/Dance which will give Black LGBT Entertainers the opportunity to showcase their talents during DC Black Pride Weekend. All singers, poets, comedians, musicians interested in performing must sign up in person at the Hospitality Suite on Thursday, Friday or before 2 PM on Saturday. First prize will be two round trip United Airline tickets to anywhere in the continental United States. The Talent Show will start at 8:30 PM and will end at 10:00 PM followed by dancing until 1 AM.

SUNDAY MAY 27TH

INTERFAITH SERVICE

The Renaissance Hotel 8 AM - 10 AM - Free
This event has become one of the highpoints of the DC Black Pride weekend. Churches that minister to our community in Washington, DC come together for song, worship and praise.

Hospitality Suite 10 AM to 12 PM @ The Renaissance Hotel
The Hospitality Suite will be open for those wishing to pick up, Black Pride EXPO tickets, Black Pride sponsors information, maps of Washington, DC, official Black Pride T-shirts and magazines, etc.

BRUNCH @ The Renaissance Hotel

11 AM - 2 PM $25.00
The popular Black Pride Brunch will include juices, breads, tradition breakfast and brunch items (e.g. pasta salads) as well as vegetarian selections. VIP pass holders may select either a Saturday brunch or Sunday brunch as part of the VIP Pass package.

BLACK PRIDE EXPO @ WASHINGTON CONVENTION CTR.

(directly across the street from the Renaissance Hotel) 12 PM □ 6 PM $10 (free for VIP Pass holders)

The new and improved BLACK PRIDE EXPO will be the place to be seen in DC during Black Pride weekend. There will over 100 vendors, the Us Helping Us dance party (the entertainment will be in a separate room this year), the STAGE with entertainment and a special headliner, and thousands men and women.

DC
PRIDE 2001
MAY 24-27

Banjee Magazine
ModelSearch
Masculine Attractive Face? Tight Body? Big Dick?

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@ The Cage
Memorial Day Weekend – DC
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Washington DC

QsJoint is a premium adult subscription web site that features: Original Photography of Black Male Models; Recommendations for Gay & Gay Friendly Chicago Nightspots; Coverage of Chicago Current Events of Interest to the community

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OFFICIAL TRAVEL & HOTEL INFORMATION

Provided Courtesy Of Clikque Magazine
America□s Leading Source For Black Gay Pride Information
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Host Official Airline:

We have Discounts Coupons for United Airlines available, Please email us your name & address and we'll send you a Coupon. This coupon can be used for travel to DC Black Pride EXPO Weekend.

To obtain the United Airlines Discount when calling your travel agent or United Reservation, Please use Promo Code: PMO/DOLLAR
(NO PHYSICAL COUPON IS NECESSARY)

United Airlines Reservation: (800) 241-6522

Host Car Rental:

CDP CARD # 1230342
Mention this CDP# when making your reservation to take advantage of the year-round discount program offered to DC Black Pride.

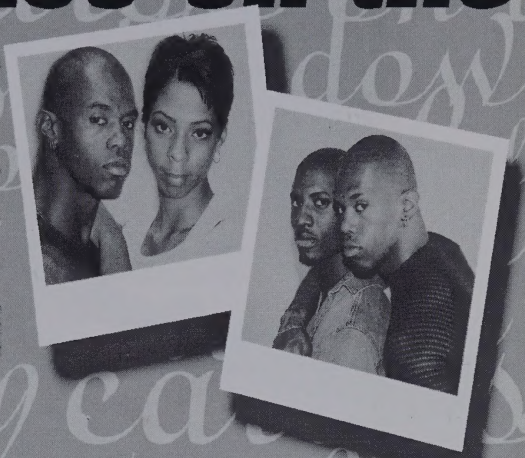
Host Hotel:

The Renaissance Hotel
999-9th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-898-9000
800-228-9290
* $109.00 per night
(Call - May Change after May 1st)
http://www.RenaissanceHotel.com

A premier location, midway between the White House and Capitol Hill and within one block of all Metro subway lines. Closest hotel to the Washington Convention Center and the MCI Center. This cybersavvy hotel features internet equipped meeting space. Marriott Rewards members can earn points at this 807 room hotel.

DC
PRIDE 2001
MAY 24-27

This call is also on the



DOWN-LOW

QUESTIONS ABOUT HIV? NEED A BROTHER TO TALK TO? CALL US.

TTY
(202) 546-4416

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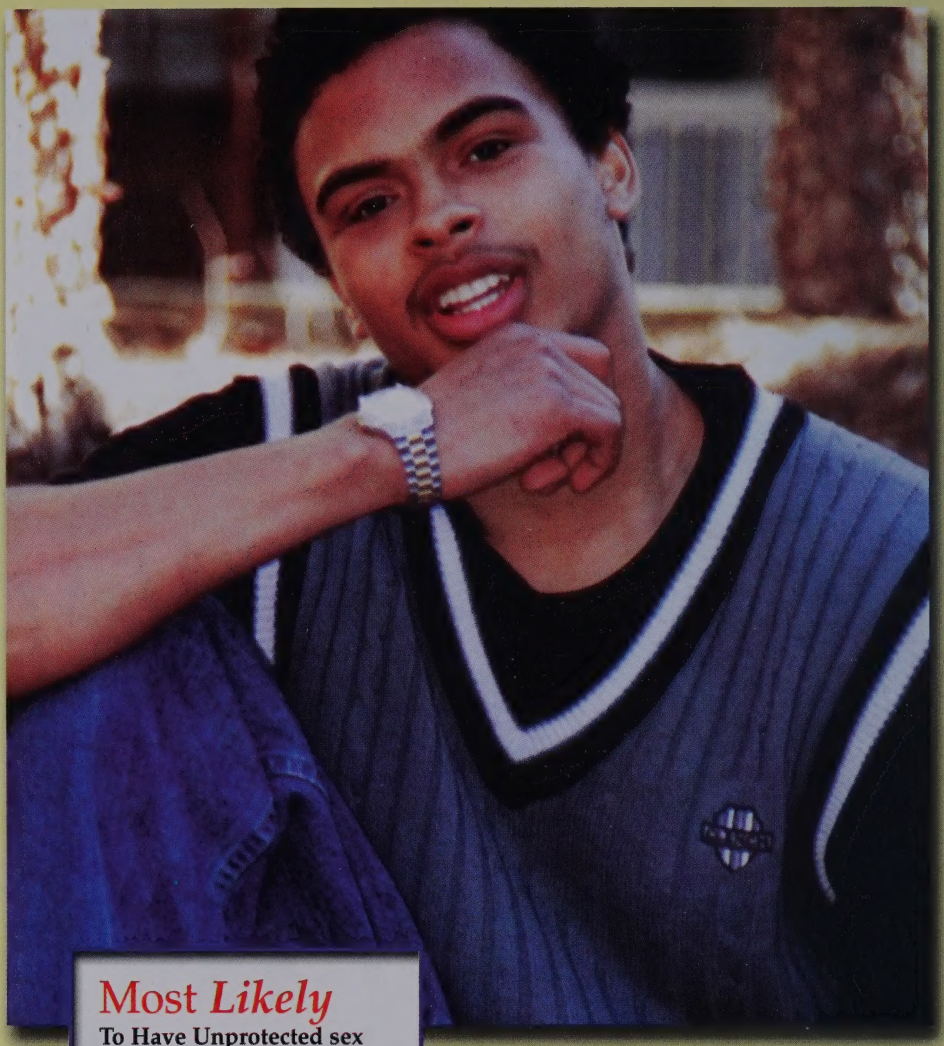
US HELPING US Inc.

Funded by the Center for Disease Control and the DC Administration for HIV and AIDS

When Steve graduated high school, his classmates voted him Most Likely to succeed.

10 Years later, Steve's still being recognized:



Project Funded by The Texas Department of Health and Renaissance III, an organization serving African American Men in The Fight Against HIV/AIDS

Most *Likely*
To Have Unprotected sex

Most *Likely*
To Not Be Tested For HIV

Most *Likely*
To Be Last To Know Of His HIV/AIDS Status

Most *Likely*
To Die From HIV/AIDS

African Americans have been disproportionately affected by HIV and AIDS. The CDC had received reports of 230,029 cases of AIDS among African Americans. Although that is 36% of the 641,086 cases reported, African Americans represent only an estimated 13% of the total U.S. population. Approximately 1 in 50 African-American men are believed to be infected with HIV.

Get Tested!

Call 214.421.4343
Or Visit Us At Renaissance III
2606 MLK Blvd., Dallas, Texas

WINDY CITY BLACK PRIDE JUNE 29TH – JULY 4TH

The East Of The Ryan

A K.C. PRODUCTION

Chicago Pride celebration

show & Dance

Sunday, July 1st.

Show Hosted By
INDIGO BLUE & MZ. RUFF N'STUFF

Tuesday, July 3rd.

Show Hosted By
FLAME MONRE & OTIS MACK

Featuring

TIARA RUSSELL
KEENAN JAMESION
FLAME MONROE
YASMINE BLACK
PIERRE FRANTZ
CANDY LOVE
SAFFIRE BLUE
INDIGO BLUE
AMALIA BLACK
TRINA TRU LUV
DRUTASTIC
JAKIM

D.J. – CRAIG CANNON *Door Host* – KEN B.

914 E. 79th ST., Chicago
PHONE (773) 386-5700
E-MAIL: KC.P@GATEWAY.NET

DANCE: 8 pm — 10:00 pm
& 12:30 am — 4 am
SHOW TIME:
10:00 pm — 12:30 am

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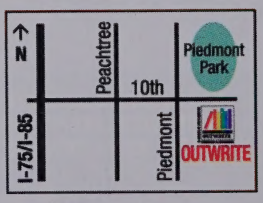

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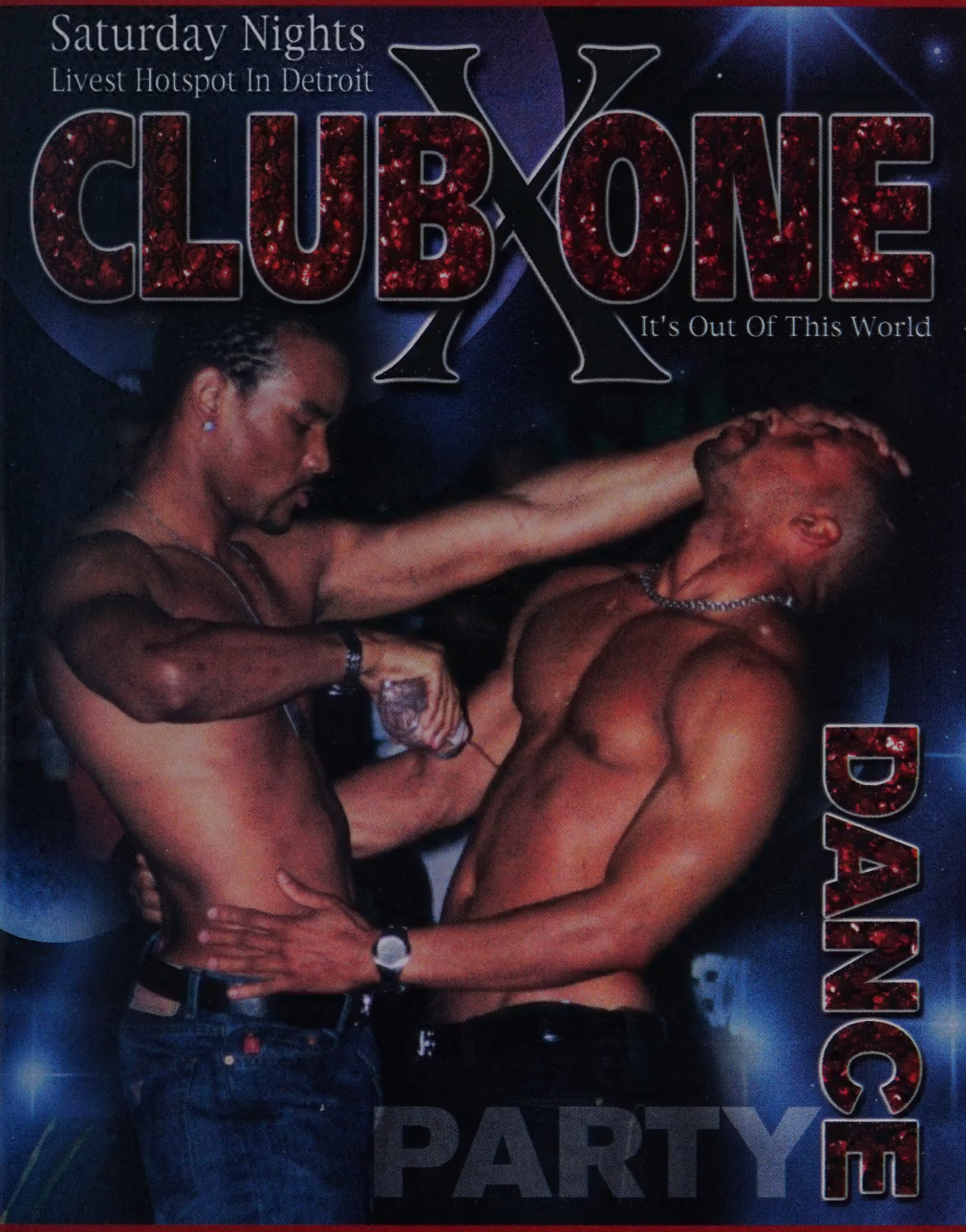

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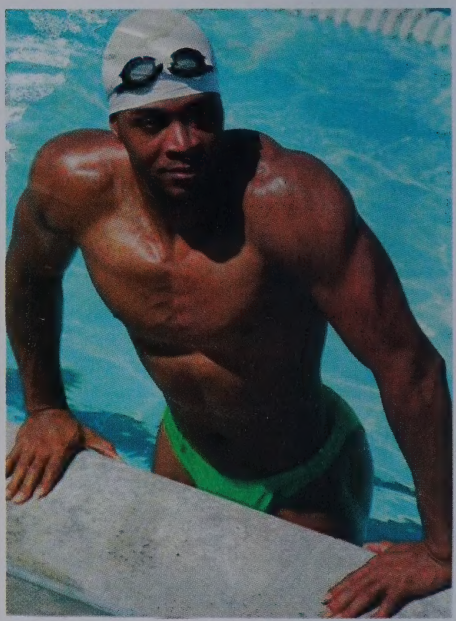
GET WITH THE PROGRAM

Spring is Here and Summer is right around the Corner

Is your Body ready for the Test?

Every year so many of us make resolutions pertaining to getting back into the gym or losing weight and half into the program we become disenchanted with the gym or the exercise regiment. Here are ten sure ways to stay with the program and reaching your goals.



If Your Have Questions Or Comments, Write Me, Mykle Here @ Clikque

1. Make working out a Necessity

-You need to decide that working out is as important as anything is in your life and the results can be phenomenal. Write your workout time into your schedule and stick to it, just as you would a vital business meeting or a potential love interest.

2. Keep it simple

- Choose a gym you can get to in a reasonable amount of time. Motivation is also an key, choosing a gym were is not cosmetic were people are really working out, sweating and you can literal see results is also essential in staying with the program.

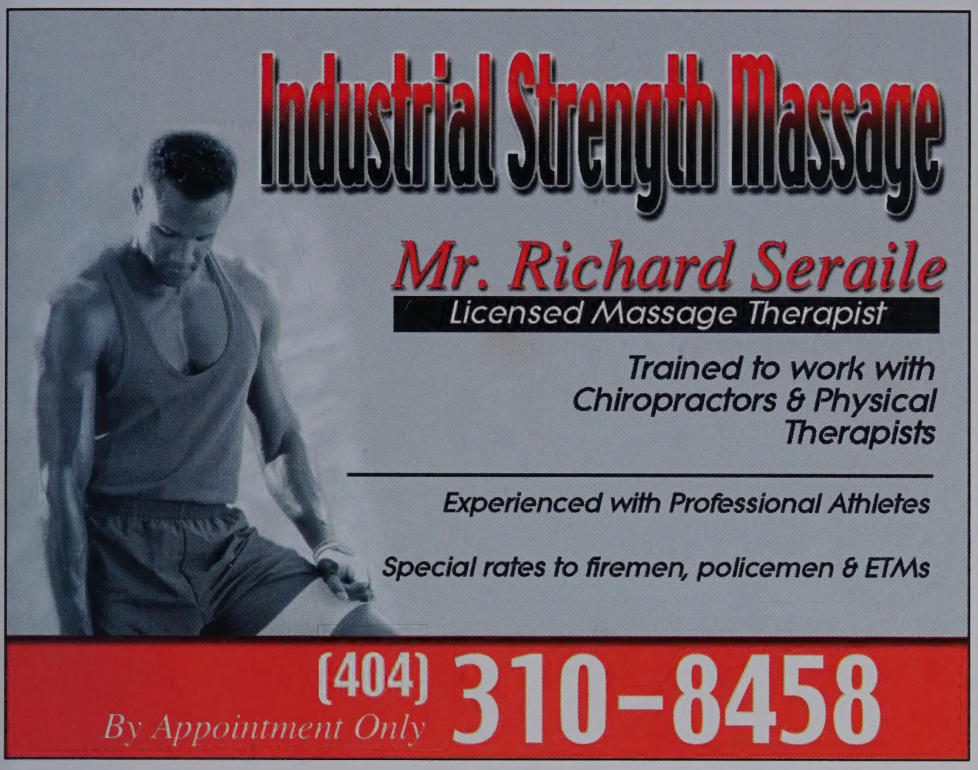
3. Don't bite off more than you can chew - We often start off too aggressive, going to a level that's higher than we're capable of achieving. Start off slow if you are not accustom to working out on a continuously regiment.

4. Set Realistic Achievable goals

- For example trying to lose 20 pounds in one week maybe obtainable but the results is that it will return and probably double. Try to make goals that are realistic, losing 5 pounds in 1-2 is realistic, building muscle mass in a set time is obtainable as well.

5. Chart your progress

- Gains from one workout to the next can be subtle, and the only way to know how well you're really doing is to write everything down. Keep a journal of your workouts, as well as what you eat. Even the extreme fanatics are diligent when it comes keeping up with their level of progress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6. Go one on one - One reason working out can seem less enjoyable than playing sports is that it can lack interplay with others. Finding a true workout partner is half the battle. Having a spotter is very important, that person can push you harder and lifting heavier as well as preventing you from injuring yourself. Sharing the same regimen can be extremely helpful when reaching similar goals.

7. Hang in there - Nothing sustains motivation better than results. Whether you're a beginner or a competitive bodybuilder, your muscles must be given enough time to adapt to the growth and the recovery periods that resistance training requires.

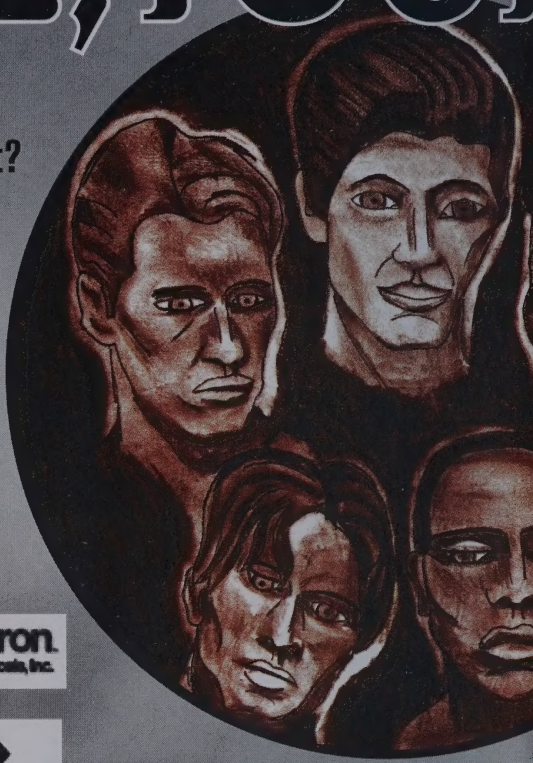
8. Miss a Workout, Re-motivate yourself - Missing one workout is not a crime, but continuing to miss more than one can be fatal. Remember if you miss a workout is gone, it's over. It's important to get back on track. Remember that your goals are in terms of health, appearance and the sports performance.

9. Relax and Feel Better - Regular exercise is a true stress release for all ages. It will relieve tension and reduce stress in some incidences. Also you may see some results like increase in strength, however a noticeable change in your physique can take up to three months.

10. Overall Importance/ Personal Trainer - Workouts are more effective and may seem easier with a professional prodding you on. You will feel more obligated to show up and stick with your regimen especially if you're paying someone to work your body into shape. If you can't afford to hire a trainer for every workout, just do it every couple of weeks and have him or her set goals for you to reach in between.

Questions pertaining to Weight Loss, Building Muscle Mass, Increasing Cardiovascular, TaeBo, Body Building, Supplements, Fat Burners

LIFE, YOU



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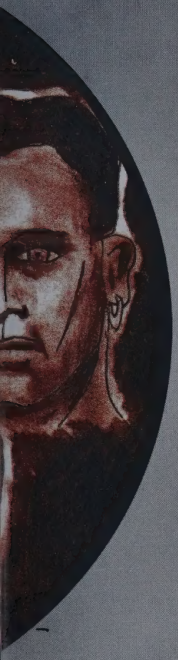

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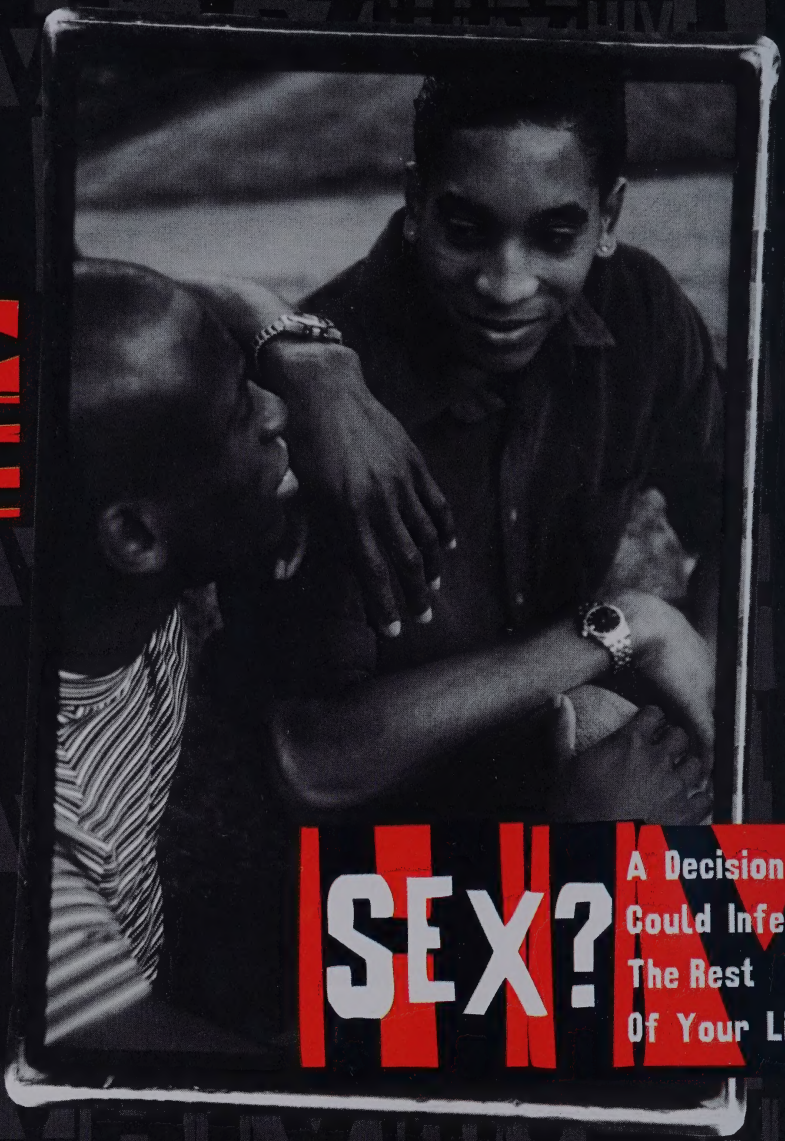

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SHE OR ME???

"Friendgirls" are the best people in the world. By definition, they are the female friends that gay guys love going to movies with, converse with, grocery shop, mall shop, and dining out at restaurants just to name a few from the long list. They are very good to talk to on the subject of men - good & bad, cute & ugly, phyne & just okay, faithful and unfaithful, and straight & gay, etc. For the most part, friendgirls are usually straight in sexual preference and are mostly inquisitive in knowing how a guy can pleasure another guy. Simply stated, they have their dating men, boyfriends, or husband while the gay guy has his as well. Unlike some gay-to-gay male friend relationships, trifleness of stealing the other person's mate is utterly ridiculous and unnecessary time consumption if the friendship is genuine. The only problem that I have experienced with a friendgirl relating to men is the following actual experience. This is definitely something that needs to be discussed because it truly stands out and causes disappointing conflicts. What do you think? Read on .....

Last Monday, one of my friendgirls (who I will name AJ) and I decided to dine for lunch at Red Lobster. We parked, walked in, & waited for our turn to be seated. After being seated for about 15 minutes & having had a chance to study the menu letter-by-letter, we were finally greeted by our waiter who took our drink orders. As the waiter walked off, AJ & I could not help ourselves looking at this "phyne" man walk away.

His uniform was not wearing him "buttttt" just the opposite. Although an apron is worn as part of his uniform, an extensive third leg could vividly be seen trying to grasp some air. "Oh, say can you see", I said to myself.

When our drinks were brought, we both noticed that he smelled great, had a terrific smile and seemed to be very professional. AJ & I constantly looked at each other in awe as he stood before us BUT there was something strange about him.

At first, when AJ ordered, the situation was normal as the waiter wrote down what she wanted. It was not until I ordered that she & I watched the waiter come very close to me and lean forward as if he could barely hear me. It was cute, though. He walked away. We watched him as he prepared to take the next table's order. He emulated the same advance with another gentleman — this time in a different ear. We thought maybe he had a hearing problem. He would just quickly take down the female's order but seemingly pay close attention to the male's order. How interesting we thought to ourselves. AJ began to get annoyed because it took such a long time for the food to arrive. I kidded with her exclaiming that she was just jealous that he wanted me & not her. It was interesting that she said this because the next few moments would really turn bizarre. The waiter arrived only with AJ's food, which took longer to prepare since I was only having an appetizer. He also brought her a refill to which he didn't notice my ice tea glass was AS EMPTY as well but it received no

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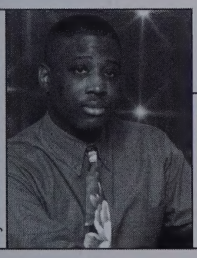
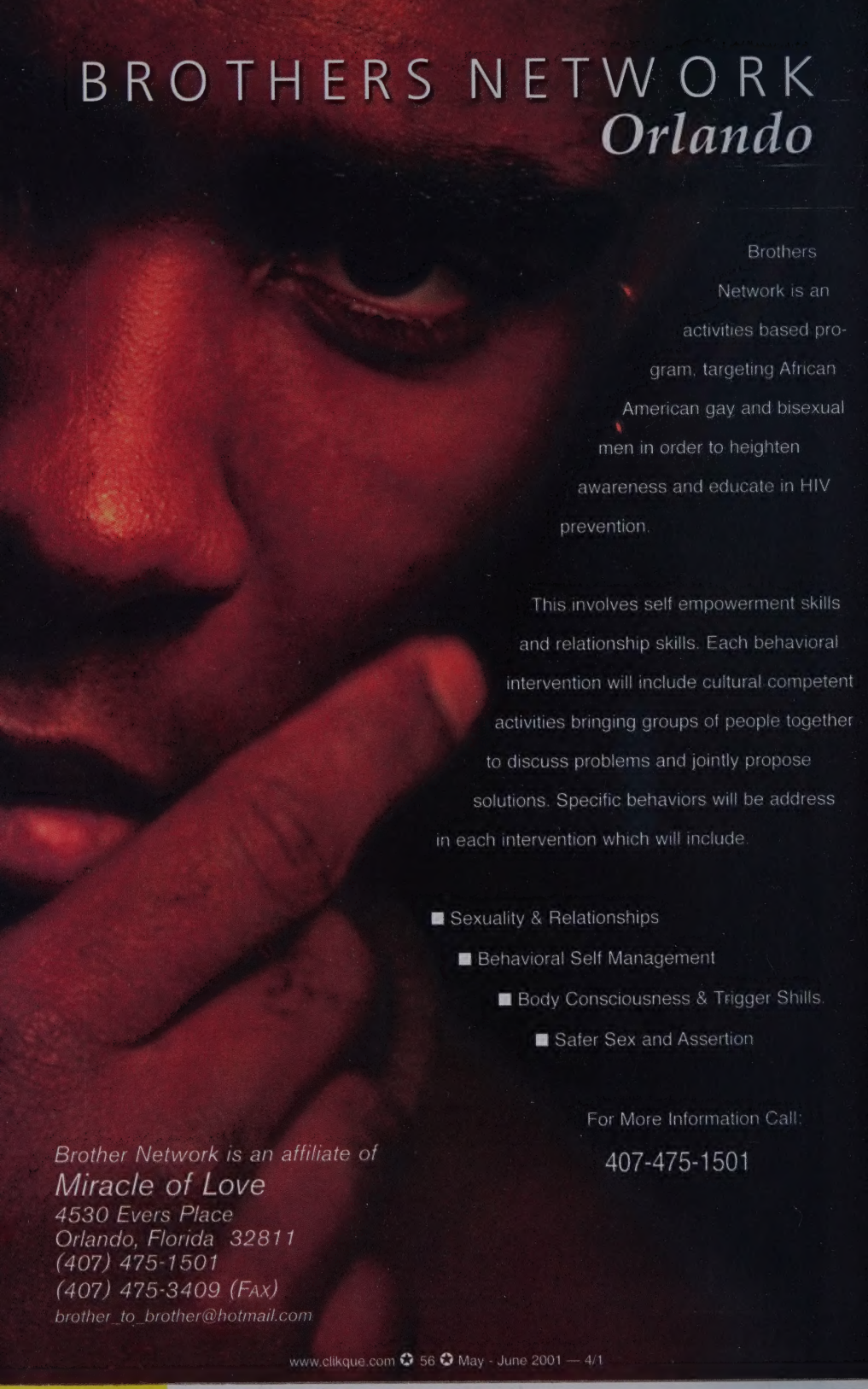


By: ***ALAN "MC" SHERMAN***

Alan "MC" Sherman, 29, resident of Atlanta, is a journalist & freelance writer. He started writing at the age of seven from which he wrote a series of little short stories & poems. He is the author of three editorial compositions published in Reader's Digest along with a impending essay in Essence Magazine. Being fascinated by words and their origins, Alan currently adds to his writing accolades, two poems published in The National Library of Poetry. He holds a bachelor's degree in English Journalism from The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Alan can be reached at alansherman@clikque.com.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Continues From Page 53

attention. He seemed to pay more attention to her as he complimented her in certain inconspicuous ways. With the attention now being focused on AJ, now we did not know what to think. AJ excused herself as she went to the bathroom. I immediately snickered to myself. My food (thank God) was then brought to the table. The waiter looks around not seeing my friend & decides to create small talk. He talks about sports, then quickly changes it to going out. He makes mention that he had just moved here & did not really know where to hang out.

Feeling him to where I think & had hoped the conversation was going, I respond by telling him that it depends on what "type" of club he wanted to attend. Smiling now uncontrollably with eyebrows raised & lowered in agreement, he begins to respond back unbeknownst to me that AJ is in the distant returning to the table. He reminds me that my "lady friend" is coming and says that we will definitely talk more on the "downlow", but later. I give my consenting masculine nod. I confide in my friendgirl by keeping her posted in what was said while she was gone. We both agree that the pendulum was now in my direction. At the end of our meal, AJ asked for the check to which he replied, "anything for the beautiful lady"! She & I both wondered how he & I was suppose to speak later if it was going to be on the down low without blowing his cover. We figured it would work itself out before we left because other than him walking around the restaurant simultaneously smiling at both of us separately, we still did not know which one of us he wanted. Very quickly, I decided something after the bill was paid. In front of the waiter, I told AJ that I now had to go to the bathroom and would meet her at the car. I figured this would give him a chance to come in & talk further should his signals were read correctly or not. I walked away from the table leaving both of them there, went to the bathroom & washed my hands. I waited there for at least 10 minutes. No one came in. "Oh well," I thought to myself as I exited the bathroom, looked around and headed to the car. It was not until I got into the car when AJ stated she had been talking to the waiter while I was in the bathroom. She showed me a carton with some dessert in it that he had given her on the house because she was "so beautiful" & stated that they talked about his asking her where to go out as well.

It was not until she told me that he spent more time complimenting her nail polish that really made us wonder what his preference was. A stereotype nonetheless, but it made us wonder.

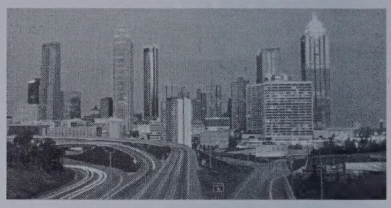
I sometimes wonder how often this happens to people. One goes out with friends or a lover & everybody seems to want to cling to you, but when you are by yourself or without a lover situation - not even waiters will stop to offer conversation. Friendgirls sometime make it difficult for would-be interested men to approach when they truly do not know the situation at hand. Sad to say - it sometimes does not matter which gender is around. If the interested man sees a woman his approach is suppressed because of the uncertainty of the male's sexuality. If the interested man sees a man his approach may be more inviting, but there is a concern.

The concern is who wants to situate himself to the point of starting a scene should the male person in question is in fact his lover or just another straight person who may not even know your sexuality. Decisions, decisions, decisions !! This incident that AJ & I experienced really made us enjoy having lunch together. Who knew that we would be waited on by a gorgeous hunk of a man then seemingly flirted with separately in public and at Red Lobster of all places. I guess, all in all, we will never know who would have been the REAL catch of the day. Simply, would it have been ——> She OR Me? You be the judge!! (AMCS)

3rd Year Anniversary Issue • May 1998 – May 2001 • Collector's Edition • Clikque Magazine

AROUND ATLANTA

with Jerry Boles'



Hello once again from Atlanta! Well, the weather is clearing up and Atlanta is becoming the name it's known for ***"HotAtlanta."*** Hotlanta is Hot with phyne boyz and yes, phyne women! They both have it going on in the South. I have some interesting topics and club ratings to discuss along with some of the best places to eat, shop and of course to meet or just be in the company of some hot Black Men. We will also get Up close and Personal with ***Dwight Powell*** of ***Clikque*** & ***Banjee Magazines***. So get your coffee or print this article and sit back during your spare time and enjoy the news from the ***Dirty South***.

Still leading the pack as the best place to party in the South is ***The Palace*** on Sundays. Free before 7:00 P.M. The kids really pack in before 7:00 P.M. (Kids is another word for SGLP not to be misconstrued as children). The Palace still gets the Southern Mint Julep 10 Rating as the number one spot to visit while in the ATL. The music is phat with Hip-hop on the top and House in the middle and Reggae in the basement. I always get a least a half hour on each floor with most of my time at the Hip - Hop Floor.

Before checking-out the Palace, you must check out the ***Legendary TRAXX*** nightclub on Saturdays where the kids let you have it. TRAXX on Saturdays offers three floors, wall to wall men and music that will definitely rejuvenate your mind, body and soul. A perfect 10 is in order. Mondays see the Stars of the Century. Tuesdays is Hip-Hop night and the ladies got the joint on Fridays. The call it the ***BARCODE***

Club Colours in Midtown on Fridays socks it for their music, drinks, and clientele. The men here are exciting, wonderful and yes, very attractive. Club Colours is hot on Fridays if you can get past the long wait in line (up to 30 minutes). If you would rather not deal with the line and must experience it, then I recommend you try them on Saturdays. No line but a very cute crowd. Club Colours features two types of music on one floor. Hip-hop and House. Club Colours is still leading on Fridays with a 10 Rating and the best place to visit on Friday night.

Bulldogs on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday get in for its nice and warm atmosphere. This is the "When you need a date or looking for that special someone" spot. Bulldogs gets a Barking 8 Rating and is a great spot to visit before you're really ready get your visit in Atlanta going on.

The Sequel (formerly Loretta's) is back. On Tuesdays, admission is free and, according to a source, it is the new Friday spot for getting crunched up. As with the Box, this is a "wait and see." No rating yet... stay tuned.

Speaking of the ***"Box"*** or now, ***"Chocolate"*** or what-ever this club's current name (I have no idea) Our understanding and the word from around town is that "yes" they have changed their name and some of the kids hit it there after the Palace on Sundays. What is the crowd like there? Or what kind of music is being served up? is something you just might have to take a chance and find out. Currently, we can not give this Club a rating.

The Marquette is a club to visit when you just want get up close and personal with some of those guests that appear to be from that talk show (you know the one) where they spend most of their time cursing and fighting each other for no apparent reason! With better screening of their patrons, The Marquette has a great potential to be a

"Class A Club." Or maybe they should just enforce some simple rules such as, "If you fight in the club or outside of the club on club property, you will be arrested and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law." Marquette gets a 4 Rating and is a place to visit only if you are planning not to start a fight.

New on the scene is ***The Chaparel***, Atlanta's coolest after-hours spot of Sundays. The crowd is hype and the music's dope. Madd action here. Check it out. It's somewhere on Bufort Highway

Now let us move on to some of the Great Shopping Places of Atlanta. ***Lenox Mall*** is the place to be in Atlanta on Saturdays with great stores, a wonderful food court and yes, great boyz to watch. This is great stimulant for shopping. ***Shoemakers Warehouse*** in Midtown features the best men's and women's footwear. ***Ruby Tuesday's*** at the Lenox Mall is fine for lunch or dinner. The best place get your workout on is at ***Bally's*** in the Northlake Mall off of I 285 and La-Vista Road. ***Run and Shoot*** on the Metropolitan Parkway near East Point is a place to get your lift on or shoot some hoop. Both places feature the hottest men you will ever want to lay eyes on. They give you great motivation to pump your body up. Neither one, however, are cruising places. Just being around phyne men is enough to motivate me more to keep this body under construction.

Moving on to some other topics.....

The Ballroom Scene here in the South is the ***Gay Fashion Underworld***, according to one house Diva. Personally, I think it more like a gang without the drugs and violence. Atlanta is home of many Houses and the kids are excited about being apart of one. Every house wants to win at the Ball and some house participants will do anything to get that title. Be it Body, Labels, Runway or Avant Garde, the children will give it to you one way or another. There is something of a thrill to watch the kids carry on and on some occasions somewhat disappointing when the kids want to turn a great competitive event into a knock-em-down-and-drag-em-out brawl. Well, what you expect? The kids are serious when it come to walking Balls. I have some advice for some of them. It okay to walk the Balls and feature your looks and talent. It's very late to live for the Ball and not have a life outside of it.

This month, Clikque Magazine offers their anniversary issue. I had the opportunity to photograph Dwight Powell (Publisher of Clikque) for the cover and let me be the first to tell you that this cover and the photo spread is HOT! There were some photographs that were so hot, he will be releasing them one by one. The issue is titled "Cleaning of the Mind, Body, and Soul" and I was able to capture Dwight actually experiencing this cleanliness through the eyes of the camera.

After the photo-session, Dwight was kind enough to treat me along with a friend to brunch. This was an opportune moment for to ask Dwight about Clikque and Banjee Magazine. One of the questions I asked Dwight was regarding the late publishing of January and February issues? Dwight was very candid with his answers and after listening to his reasoning, I can truly see that this young Black Businessman is really going to be very successful. If you didn't know, Banjee was launched in January and unbeknownst to Dwight & business partner ***Derrick Goodley***, this new magazine took off at full speed ahead. With the folding of ***GBM Magazine***, this was the opportune time for a new, fresh magazine to come out and join in the ranks of ***Black Inches***. A fresh look with new faces along with a variety of Black Models is truly a welcome change to the adult magazine industry for Black Men. Dwight offers Black Men with body. Some of these men are just plain sexy. One of things I personally like is that Dwight features Models that would even appeal to me. Personally, I like the bottom types. Dwight has not dropped Clikque nor is the magazine Bankrupt as rumors may have it. What Dwight has done is take a long look and inventory of his business. This gave him the opportunity to re-evaluate his goals and make renewed commitments to being successful.

Banjee, according to Dwight, is available now in several Countries and the fan mail has increased tremendously. Clikque is stronger than ever. You may have noticed in the latest issue, the new advertisers. It is no-longer just a local publication. It has moved into the National League. Here is an interesting fact: Clikque is now the largest monthly Black Gay Magazine in the nation. There are other Black Gay Magazines, but they are not in the same league.

Yall take care now...hear!!!!!!!!!!

By: Jerry Boles

PRIDE MEDICAL

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From left: Charles Dickey, MSW, LCSW, Kimball A. Johnson, MD, Lee R. Anisman, MD, (seated), Gail Parker, RN, MN, CFNP and David H. Morris, MD.

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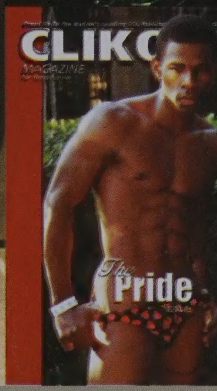

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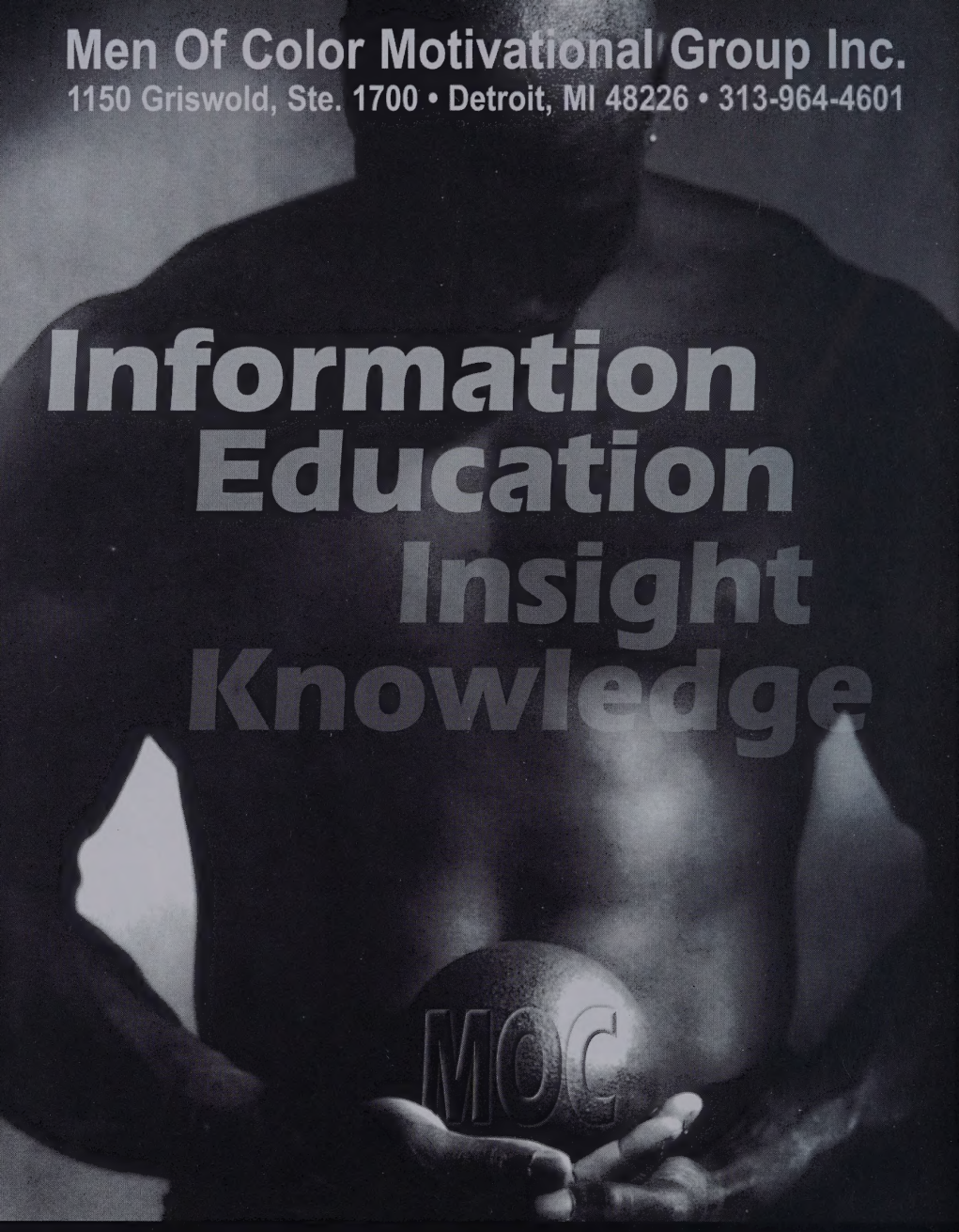

MEN OF COLOR MOTIVATIONAL GROUP INC. strives to empower African-American gay/bisexual/transgender men by providing information, education, insight, and knowledge on day to day issues in the African-American community. MOC advocates positive health strategies and non-biased information dissemination and education. Education and motivation of African-American men is our primary concern in order to bridge gaps of understanding and knowledge. We encourage openness, trust, and most of all mutual respect for one another.

Although the need of the African-American male is our primary focus, Men of Color welcome the participation of all community minded individuals. Our organization is equally aware of and sensitive to the needs of the community as a whole.

Components of our program include safer sex workshops, providing speakers for organizations and community outreach efforts, primary and secondary prevention case management and housing assistance programs, bars, and club outreach, material distribution and HIV/AIDS Peer Training, and HIV/AIDS Anonymous/Confidential Counseling and Testing.

Continues From Page 21

not the same thing happen when you have finished the next piece of gum?? Staleness is a part of life. It is up to you to revitalize and rejuvenate the taste in your mouth so that freshness can develop. Just think of all the bubbles you can blow into the future with the SAME pack and be happy.

* Don't break up just because you see another phyne body that you feel is so ALL that. This includes seeing people from the clubs, the malls (which are the clubs), the gym, and/or the train, etc. Remind yourself of the long-term commitment with your partner & gracefully move on. Be careful what you pray for and be mindful of the old & familiar phrase –>"everything that looks good to you is NOT ALWAYS good for you".

* Throw away that negative "cheerleader" principle that says: Men - - can't live with 'em & can't live without PARTS of 'em.

* Stop assuming things without communicating the way you feel. Talk about your feelings of the relationship WITH your partner & NOT with ALL your friends. You never know what agenda your friends may have for a "desiring" impromptu breakup. The information you tell your friends only enables them to have the inner scoop of what could help them score your lover. Remember, to your friends – don't advertise your lover - one of them just may decide to BUY.

All of these tips & guidelines are very important to any relationship whether gay or straight. The proof of the pudding is all in how the 2 people in the relationship choose to conduct themselves to a threshold of longevity. This is the only possible & conceivable way known to many successful "relationers" throughout the years. Most say that the first years or so are the hardest, but after those years pass most jointly agree that the mental maintenance becomes easier, better, & more exciting. This is reminiscent to Clikque Magazine's success. Just as adversities and happiness are attached to social relationships, owning and publishing a successful magazine can be best described as indistinguishable. I am certain that through these 3 years, Clikque has painstakingly gone through those moments (as many relationships have) of wanting to throw in the towel, find other "projects" to work on, and/or suffer losses & incur profits. I am very elated that Clikque has decided to hold on to the strings of opposition withstanding the total test of time. For without the determination of the owner, one would not be reading this article now.

I am reminded of the Christmas story of Dr. Seuss', How The Grinch Stole Christmas. Everyone knows of the strong willed Grinch and how he did not want the people of the fiction town to enjoy their Christmas holiday. This is very prevalent in today's society relating to relationships, too. Most people are so surprised when they see anniversaries progress through the years. They think only of the negative aspects and calculate the couples' breakup date to the month and day not to mention the reason and the season. They would rather drink gallons of Haterade than wish them the best. With a lesson that need to be learned, allow me to interject this. The Grinch's story offered a powerful and rewarding lesson. The lesson learned was that Christmas was not about the most "presents one could get", but the amount of love one could "carry" in their heart while giving it to others. Anniversaries are products of disciplined relationships that practice these soul saving rules. No matter how you look at it, relationship or not, in this world we all have to get along with each other in some aspect of life. We might as well make the decision to love & respect one another –- For better, for worse !!

Happy Anniversary Clikque !! (Pop) (Bubble) (Pop) (Bubble)a

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Oakland, California

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- Free Anonymous HIV Testing
- Client Advocacy
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- HIV Transitional Housing
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Our Story...

The African American Men's AIDS Support Services & Survival Institute (AMASSI) was established in 1989 for men whose community had been ravaged by HIV and AIDS. Since that time AMASSI has been to the forefront of efforts in the San Francisco Bay Area funneling much needed treatment and prevention services to a relatively disenfranchised community that had been overlooked for far to long.

Today Over 75% of the work of AMASSI is in the housing arena, providing services to homeless women, children and famalies in Alameda County. • www.amassi.org

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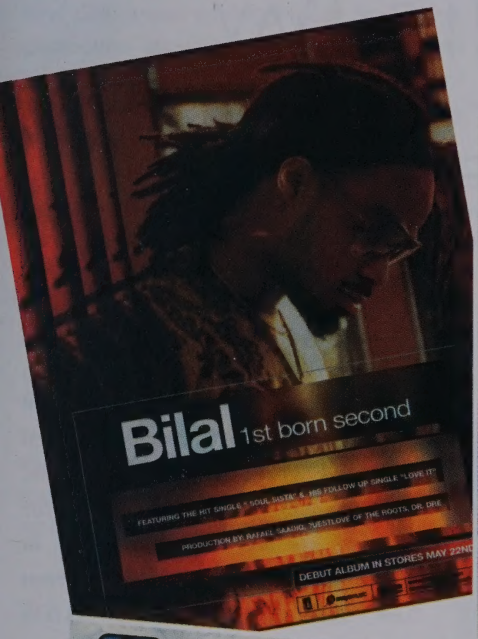

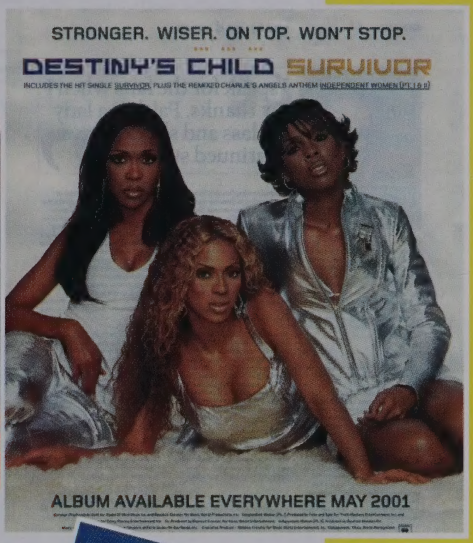

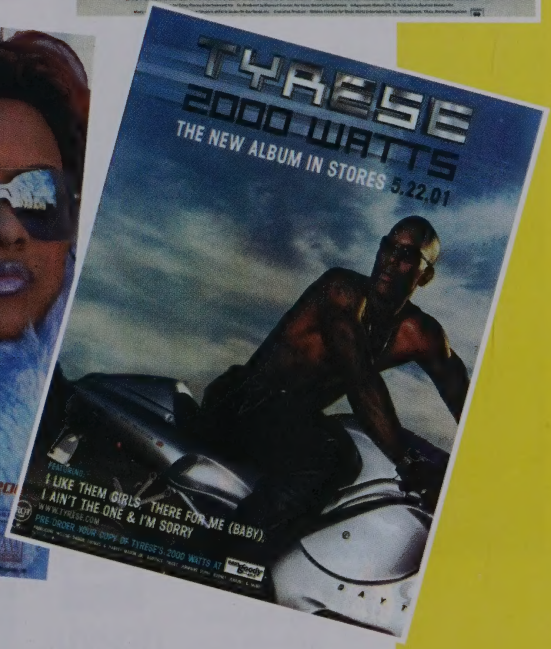

Destiny's Child – May 1
Bilal – May 22nd
Queen Pen – May 22
Tyrese – May 22

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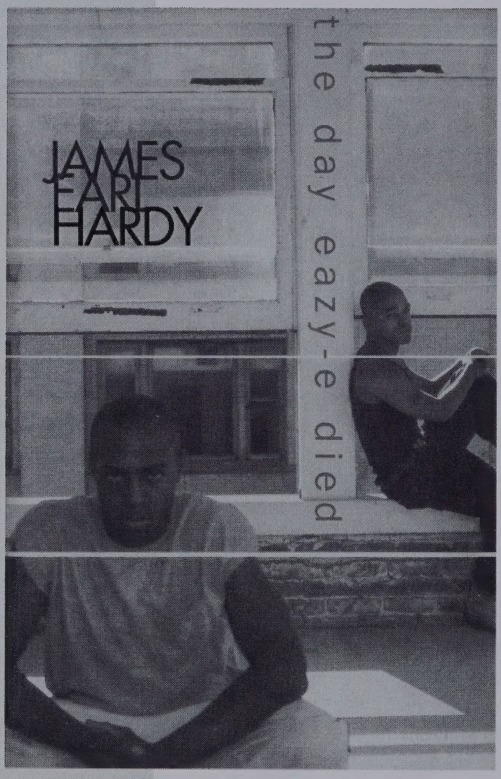
LETS READ

THE DAY EASY-E DIED

James Earl Hardy
A B-Boy Blues Novel



"According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, AIDS is the leading cause of death among African Americans between the ages of 25-44. Furthermore, African Americans accounted for 56% of all HIV cases reported in 1997."—A 1999 Press Release from The National Minority AIDS Council

"Surveillance data analyzed from 25 states with integrated HIV and AIDS reorting systems for the period between January 1996 and June 1999...show that even through AIDS incidence (the number of new cases diagnosed during a given time period, usually a year) is declining, there has not been a comparable decline in the number of newly diagnosed HIV cases among youth...Cumulatively, young African Americans are most heavily affected, accounting for 56% of all HIV cases ever reported in this age group."—Young People at Risk: HIV/AIDS Among America's Youth, The Center for Disease Control and Prevention, January 2001

There is no doubt that when it comes to realistically chronicling the experiences of contemporary black gay life and love, no one comes close to James Earl Hardy. His deft exploration of the cross-cultural differences among African-Americans, clear-eyed examinations of racism and homophobia, and passionate pleas for peace have made the best-selling B-Boy Blues series a modern classic.

At the end of If Only for One Nite, Raheim Rivers and Mitchell Crawford's love had been tested by ghosts of the past; now it will be tested by the haunting specter of AIDS.

As Raheim juggles his increasingly hectic schedule as a supermodel, he is rocked by the news that one of his idols, N.W.A. founder Eazy-E, has AIDS. His complacency shattered, Raheim gets tested but keeps it a secret. Meanwhile, life goes on around him, as his son struggles in a new school, his ex-girlfriend falls in love with a new man, and Mitchell becomes increasingly concerned by Raheim's withdrawal.

As he has so succesfully done in the past, Hardy masterfully draws his fascinating and very real characters into the ferment of urgent societal issues. He has created a powerfully real look at the issues facing young people of all sexual persuasions, young Black men, who are disproportionately infected and affected by AIDS. The book confronts the issues of sexuality, responsibility, and youthful perceptions of immortality.

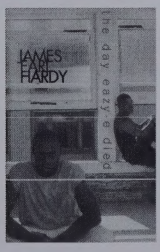
As the date for disclosure of his test results draws near, Raheim's fear and the ongoing stigma of the disease push him toward conflicting decisions.

About The Author

James Earl Hardy is the author of the best-selling books B-Boy Blues, 2nd Time Around, and If Only for One Nite, as well as a biographies of Spike Lee and Boyz II Men. His work is also featured in Out in All Directions: A Treasury of Gay and Lesbian America and Shade: An Anthology of Fiction by Gay Men of African Descent..

A 1993 Columbia University school of journalism graduate, Hardy is an award-winning entertainment feature writer, reporter, and critic. He has been honored by the American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors and has won the E.Y Harburg Foundation Arts Award and the Educational Press Association Award. Hardy's writings have appeared in The Washington Post, Out, Essence, The Advocate, Newsweek, Entertainment Weekly, and Vibe.

Born and raised in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, he currently resides in Gramercy Park in Manhattan.



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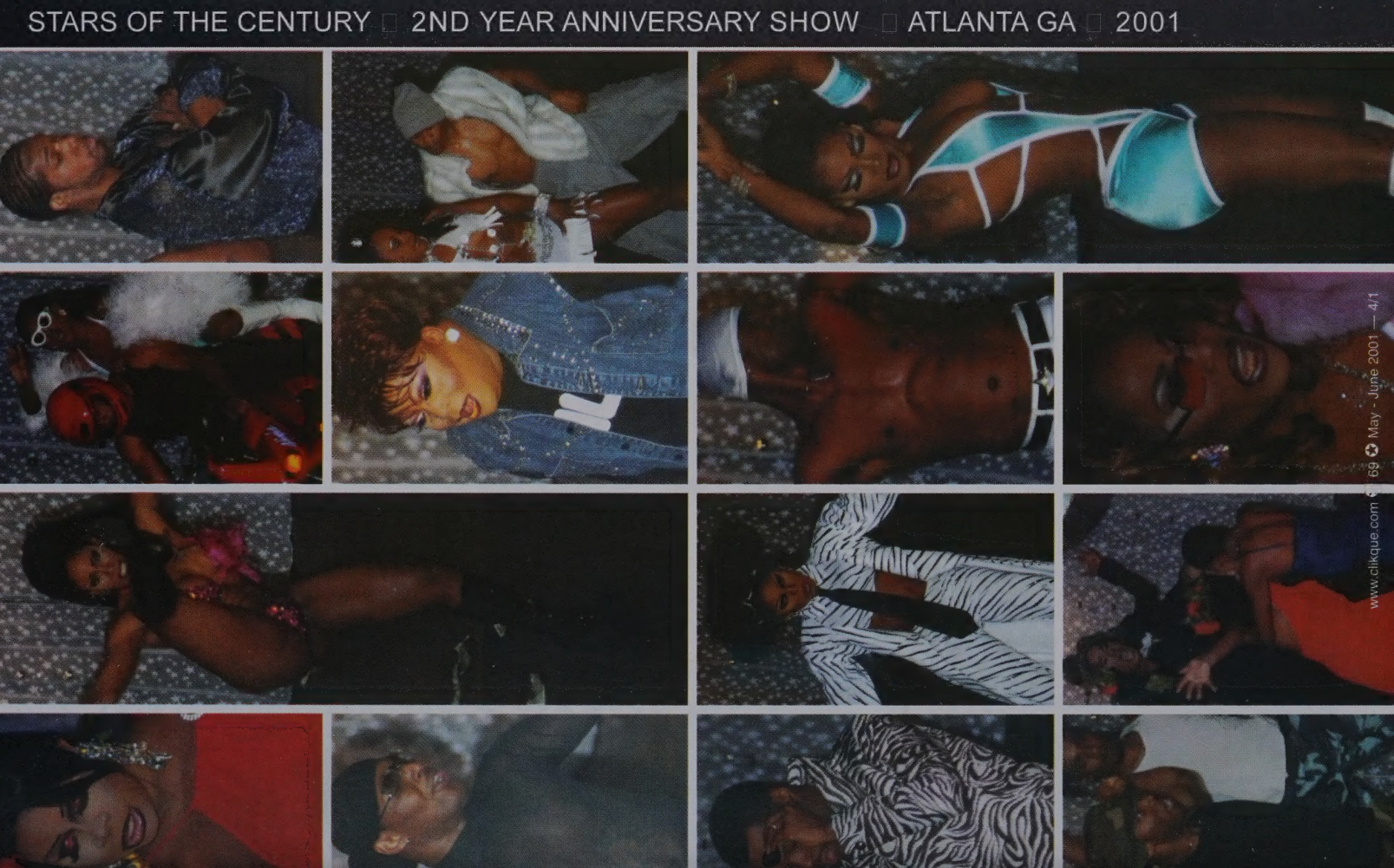
Stars Of The Century Anniversary Show *Atlanta, Ga*


STARS OF THE CENTURY 2ND YEAR ANNIVERSARY SHOW ATLANTA GA 2001
www.clikque.com 69 May - June 2001 4/1

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RASTAMAN A LION

"Me cyan't fuck wit him! Him jinnal! Sam fie men!"

"So what!? The brotha is phoine! Just break him off some knowledge while you tap that poom-poom. You can do that, can't you?"

This is how my partners sexual quirks would manifest; the emancipation of an Amerikkanized and colonized mind by way of my seed, turned him on. I had to admit the power given me by the Most High alone made me nut, but coupling with such a pretentious idiot as the brotha in front of me, well, that could be awesomely different. Like eating something sweet and salty or hot and cold or, simply being caught between darkness and the light.
He'd unknowingly insulted me...my Locs, my Crown. Praising my face, the lightness of my skin, mistakenly attributing it to Europe; denouncing the African kink of Glory and dismissing that the color is Latin.

"Him dead an' don even know it. Let him rot in Babylon wit him brethren and dem bumba claat mind!"

"Don't kill him Rundi. Just fuck him and let him know Rastaman is a lion."

I looked at my friend and agreed that the brotha was phoine. He's just a victim of his society. Maybe my seed could change that. He was worth a try. Physically, he stirred my loins. I decided, for my partners voyeuristic pleasure and my desire to uplift, to plant my seed deep within him.
With very little persuasion, we arrive at my loft. My partner goes into another room, positioning himself for easy viewing to what's to transpire.
I burn candles and incense. Pour libations for the welcoming of the ancients. The brotha and I partake of the "spirit tree."
He stood 6'4. Smooth cocoa brown skin, clean shaven, low fade, solid basketball build with a bubble butt. Seemingly intelligent, lacking common sense.
He rambles on, asking idiotic questions regarding my heritage, homeland, beliefs and disbeliefs, my culture, as if I were actually from another planet; the dreaded top/bottom question and what I liked.
I say nothing, staring at him. Nodding, shrugging, politely disagreeing when stereotypes emerge.
We sit. He continues. Talking excessively and nervously.
I rise to open the drapes, exposing the night and the lights from the city below. The view is breathtaking. The ancients have arrived.
Without looking at him, no longer acknowledging his insipid, non-sensecal conversation, I disrobe. exposing my wondrousness to him and the city below. I turn and face him. No facial expression, just my beauty, looking him dead on. He begins to stutter with whatever his feeble little mind can muster for him to utter on how to deal with this 'season of the awakening'.

(You see, brothas and sistas; there is nothing more beautiful than you-in your natural state. A natural brotha or sista, is beauty, absolute.)

I let him bathe in my glory. My mane, extending, roaring, like the mighty Lion. My body, my Manhood, Godlike in everyway.

"Rastaman a lion. I an' I gwine beat down Babylon. Better must come."

Inquisitively he tilted his head. Amerikkka has fucked you, I thought. Now I must love you.
"Yo. You tryin' to put some of that island voodoo shit on me?"

"Vodou! Di other, Amerikkan fi wi cyan't speak up fi wi self!"

"I don't understand."

As if time were standing still, I walk to where he sat on the sofa. I kneel between his legs. Raising one leg, I remove his boot. I do this to the other, never losing eye contact, undressing him slowly until he too, is completely nude. I stand over him. This isn't the only brotha, prey to a colonized and fascist society. But this one, I am going to set free.

"A people losing sight of origins are dead. A people deaf to purpose are lost. Under fertile rain, in scorching sunshine, dere is no difference. Dem bodies, mere corpses, awaiting final burial. Ayi Kwei Armah."

"What!? I don...."

"Shhhhhhh!"

I lead him to the window. Standing behind him, I have him lean forward, placing his hands on the pane and exposing his manly ass to me. With a swiftness, I go to my knees again, inhaling his man funk. I bury my face between those solid cheeks, lapping his essence as a lion to the river, quenching that thirst. He moans and thrusts back. My body begins to vibrate with power. I want him to be made aware. With every poke of my tongue, his manhood rises and drops, flopping, yet as hard as diamond.

"Me gwan natural. Natural, only brotha."

ing in his ear, as my and his thrust are met with an immortal power.

"Open de heart!", I cry.

"Oh God yes! I feel you brotha. I feel the Lion. Fuck my ass! Ahh, God help me. I'm gonna cumm!"

I keep pounding his ass, while I raise my hands to the sky. In an ancient Anoa chant, I call for my seed to be released in the bowels of this mortal; filling him with the knowledge of the ancestors before and the ancients before; filling him with the remembrance of our way. The Way. Our bodies tremble as we are fused together in one moment in time. He, spilling his seed, the seed of Shaytan (the deceiver) on the floor, as the seed of

EROTICA

With that said, I rise. Placing my dick at the entrance to his manwomb, wrapping my arms around his chest. I want him to feel me with every fiber of his being. I want him to know me; to have remembrance of our way. The Way. I plead, softly, in the name of the Most High. My entrance into his halls is met with wails of mortal death, but, minimum resistance. My full length extends into the man, exceeding pain into the world of sheer pleasure.

"Know me. I an'I wan you to forward an' start anew. Know me."

He thrusts his ass back onto me over and over again. With each, he cries. The vibration is stronger. With all the power of the Vodou within, I muster the spirits of the ancients to speak with him; whisper-

the Lion wakes him. We collapse, heavily, to the floor. Still inside him I hold him as the last pangs of orgasm start to subside. Breathlessly, he whispers:
"Yae...I know thee. I remember the way. Reciprocity...the way of Creation. The way it unfolds."

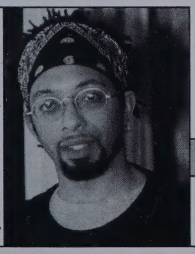
"Never forget..."We who hear de call not to forget what is in our nature, have we not betrayed it in dis blazing noonday of de killers? Around we, dey have placed a plethora of tings screaming denial of our nature, tings welcoming us against ourselves, tings luring us into de whiteness of destruction. We too have drunk oblivion, and overflowing with it, have joined the exhilerated chase after death!"

"Rastaman. I understand."

"Let Jah be praised. Let correction be necessary."

Brothas and sistas, do you understand?

Khalid Dawuud Idawu



By: **Khalid Dawuud Idawu**

Want More Information On This Topic? or About The Author

If you would like to get more information about Dennis Lincoln, visit his site at ***www.dennislincoln.com.*** *Khalid is a senior staff writer for Clikque Magazine.*

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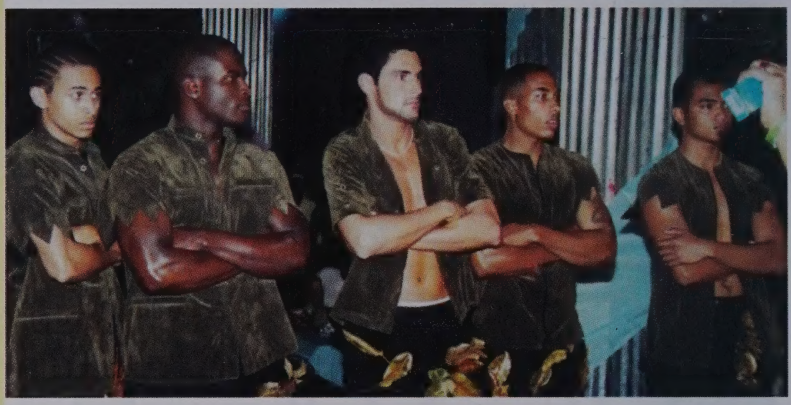
Sceens From The Armani Ball

Atlanta, Ga



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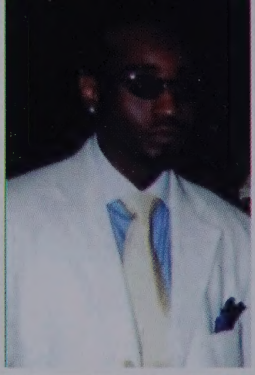

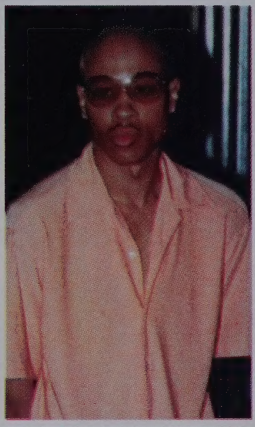

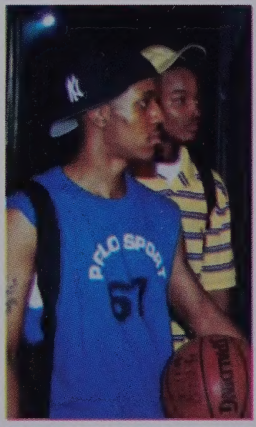
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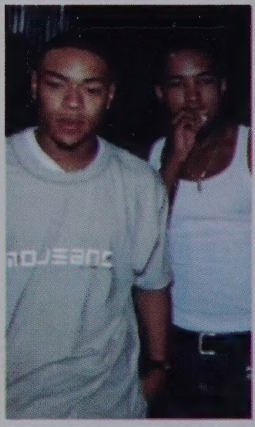
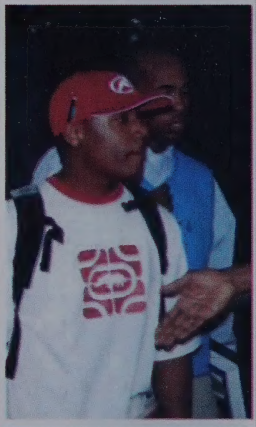

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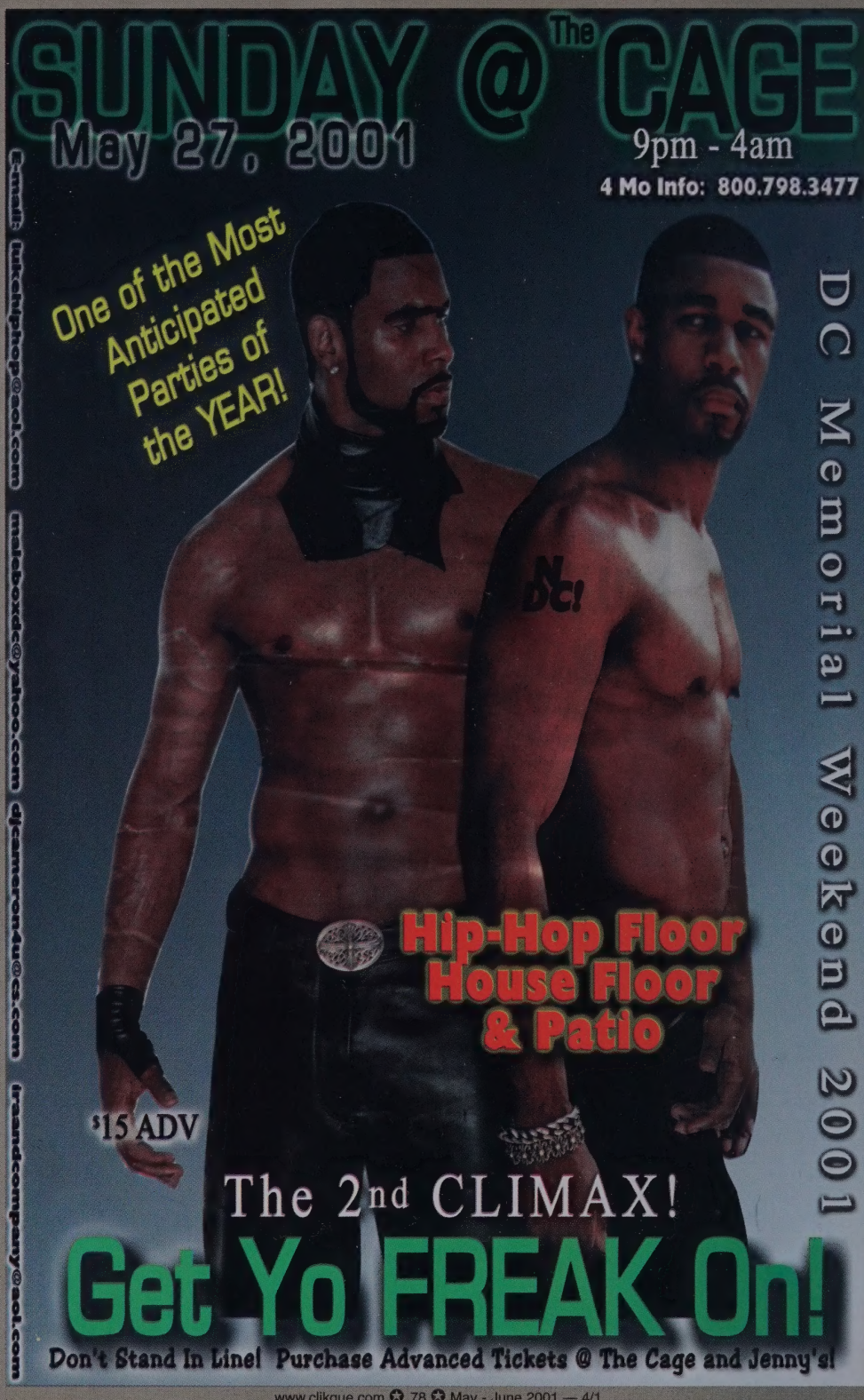
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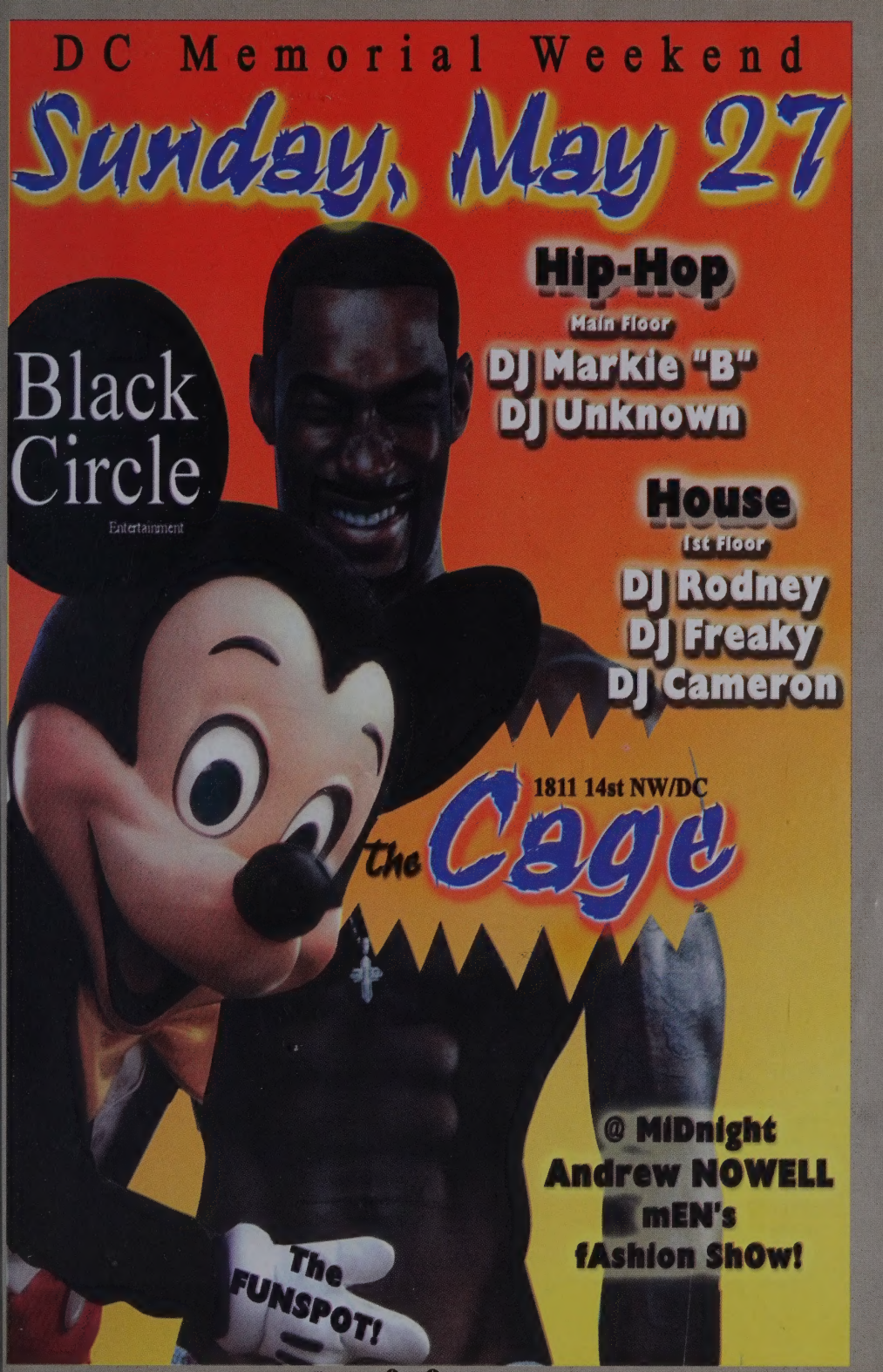
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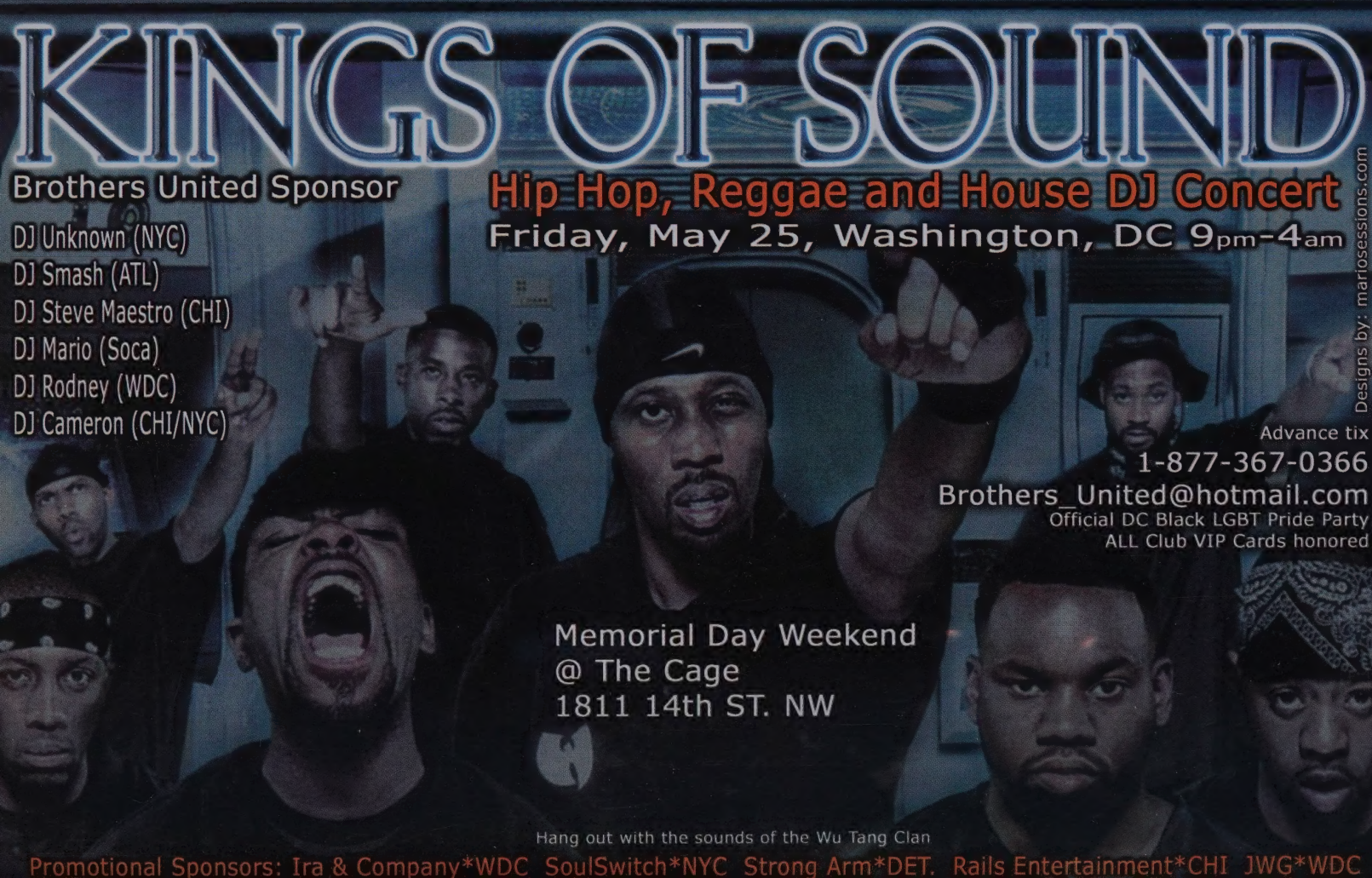
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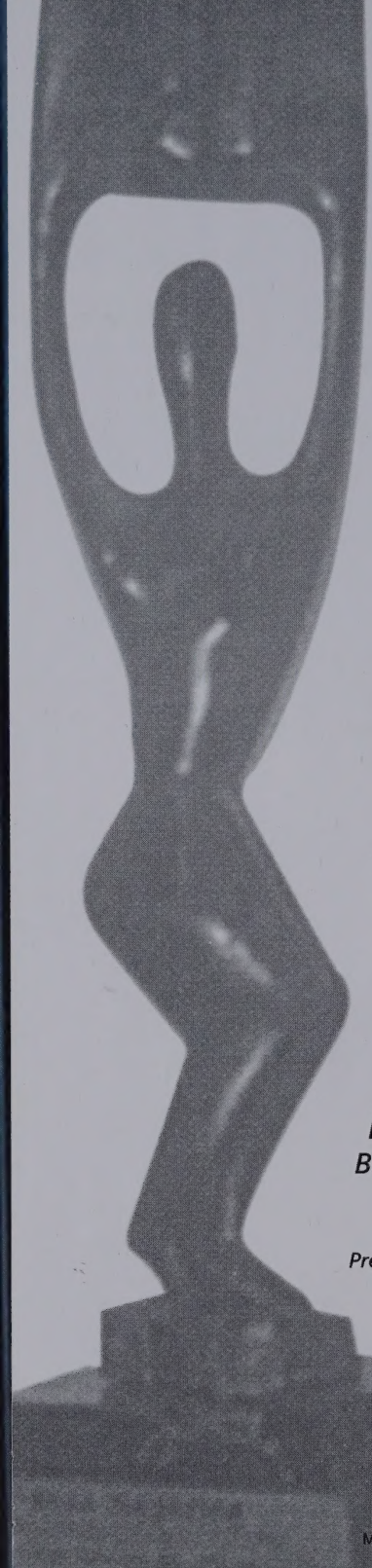

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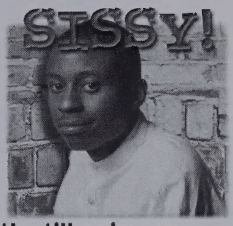

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- Generally well-tolerated to help you stay on treatment
- "Strongly recommended" as part of a first line regimen in DHHS Guidelines[2]

SAFETY INFORMATION

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting SUSTIVA. They tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. If you have these symptoms, you should contact your doctor immediately to discuss your therapy. There have been a few reports of suicide, but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. Mild to moderate rash is a common side effect of SUSTIVA. Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA, because birth defects have been seen in animals given SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA should not be taken by patients who are also taking any of the following: Hismanal® (astemizole), Propulsid® (cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Halcion® (triazolam), or ergot derivatives as there is the potential for serious and/or life-threatening side effects.* See Patient Information about SUSTIVA on the following pages.

Once Daily
SUSTIVA™
efavirenz

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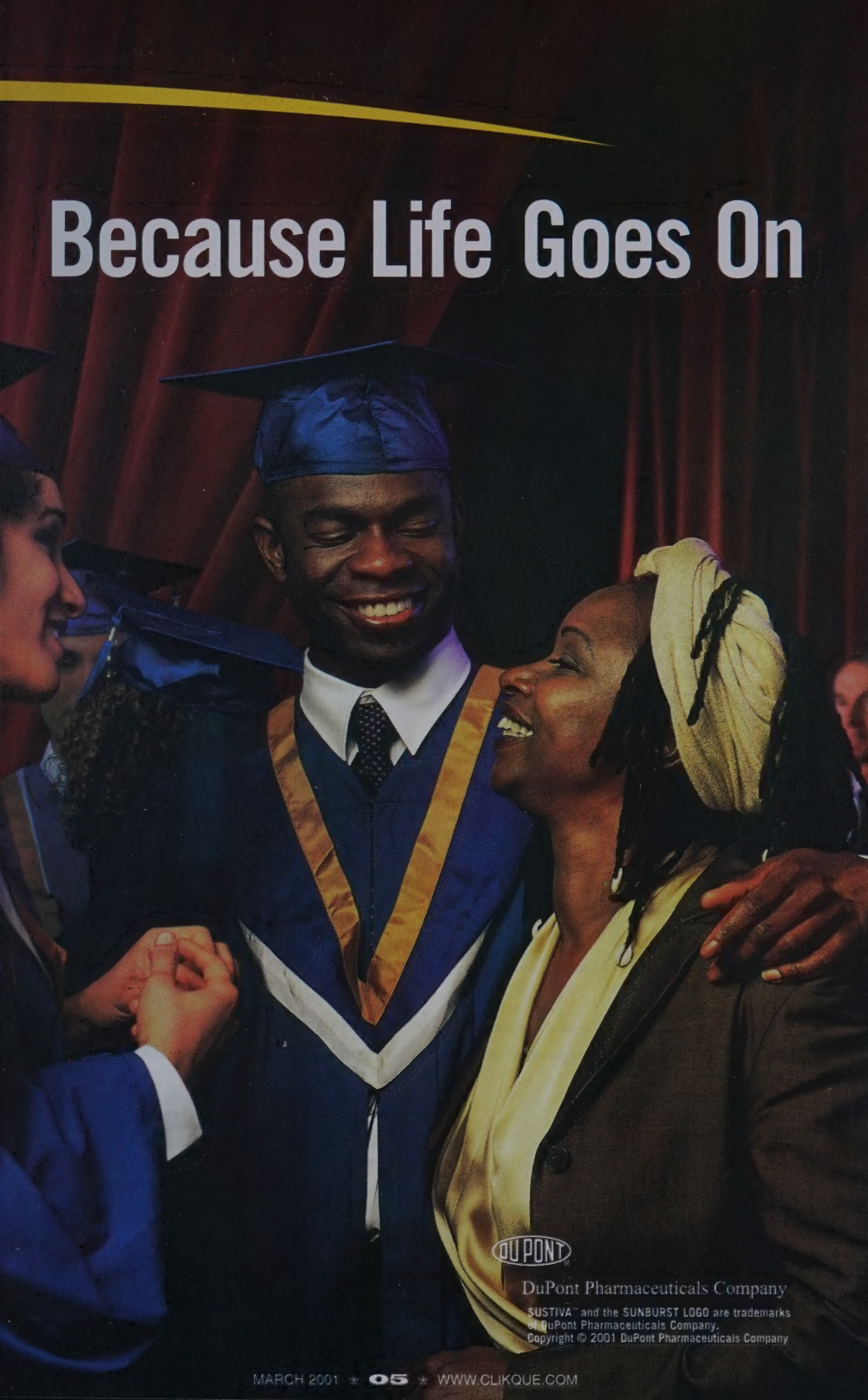
References:
1. DPC Study 006, Sustiva/ZDV/3TC versus IDV/ZDV/3TC. **2.** Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Dept of Health and Human Services; January 2000.

www.sustiva.com 1-800-4-PHARMA (1-800-474-2762)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Once Daily
SUSTIVA
efavirenz

SUSTIVA™ (efavirenz) capsules

Patient Information about SUSTIVA* (sus-TEE-vah) for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?
SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?
SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?
SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?
SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?
- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?
Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?
Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?
Talk to your doctor right away if you:
- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?
A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide and a few patients have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness. You should contact your doctor immediately if you think you are having these symptoms, so your doctor can decide whether you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have severe depression, strange thoughts or angry behavior. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?
Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?
SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:
- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA**:
- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA**:
- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?
SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?
Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at http://www.sustiva.com.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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MARCH'S 2001

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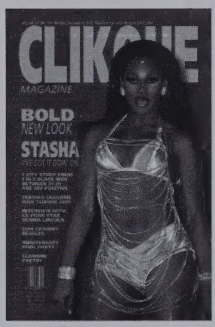
NEW **62 CLASSIFIEDS**
Interview with ex-porn star Dennis Lincoln



On The Cover:
The Lil Kim of Atlanta
Stasha Sanchez

Get Ready
The Houston Splash Issue Hits The Street Next Month
In This Issue See Pages 24, 32, 33 & 64

HOW TO MAKE SUBMISIONS TO CLIKQUE MAGAZINE?

Clikque Magazine™ is published monthly. We are known for featuring the works and talents of individuals all over the country. If you have something that you would like to see published, please submit it to our editorial department via email: editor@clikque.com. You can also send your submissions via mail to 931 Monroe Drive, Suite 102-279, Atlanta, Ge. 30308. We are also on the world wide web at www.clikque.com.

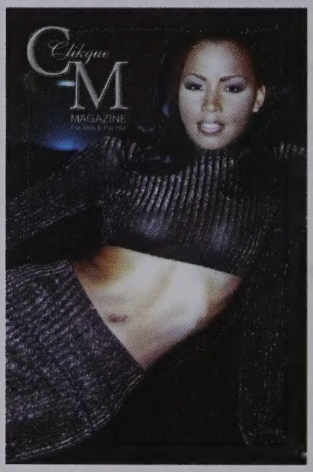
The Late Liz Marshall On A

DEEPER LOVE

Reprinted From The Clikque September 1999 Issue

Do you ever question your existence? So many times in life, I've dealt with family and friends pondering over the true meaning of life. For me, I think like so many other things that the answer is inevitably an individual journey. In pursuit of obtaining a better understanding of my purpose in life, I've studied myself. Through self-introspection, I have discovered my best attributes as well as my greatest weaknesses. I think that so much can be learned by looking inwardly as opposed to seeking constant reassurance and self - worth from others. The greatest accomplishment in living is learning to love yourself. Honey, if you don't love you and know who you are, there ain't too much you'll be available to offer to others. Find the deeper love before you jump in the shallow end and come up with a feeling of exuberance but nothing truly tangible. Always look up and within before you leap.

So much of life is founded on and relative to love. First, let's look at the foundations of the world, regardless of your belief I'm sure we can all agree that the creator formulated our existence through an act of love. If not, let's say your mother loved you enough to carry you nine months and have you. OK, that should be enough for you to get the point. Love is the reason for your life; you would not be here if someone hadn't loved you to begin with. Then, we get here and forget the entire concept. Too entrenched in the problems



of life and other folks business to fathom the idea that without love, people perish. Love yourself before pondering the idealized relationship. He or she cannot love what you haven't bothered to cultivate within yourself. Don't allow anyone to make discoveries for you, discover yourself baby. There are so many of the "children" wandering around aimlessly these days, clad in Versace, hiding behind Donna Karan that remain clueless about their own identity. In my brief thirty-one year old life, I have learned that loving myself prolongs my relationships, assists me in attaining my goals and gives me direction. I see too much shade in our communities, fighting amongst ourselves and entirely too much promiscuity. We need to evolve. If the deeper love I speak about were more prevalent and the search for meaning in our lives was more reverent, there would be less bullshit. If you're really trying to grasp the full concept of what I am expressing, this is a black gay pride message for you kids in "the family". We are on the brink of a new millennium and it's time to get real in every facet of our lives. Going forward is imperative and we can't move ahead without self-love propagating brotherly and sisterly love. Life is too short and the actualization as to what it's all about and what each of us has to do is too vital to our growth to overlook. Seek out the best in you and you'll find it in others. Without a deeper love, the same old superficial, unimaginative stuff will plague our lives and stagnate what could be. Peace, love and strength to you all! Make it happen.

–CM–

By: LIZ MARSHALL

In Sunday, December 3, 2000, Detroit nation and Clikque staff writer Liz Marshall nade her transition back to the Lord. We miss and love you Liz.

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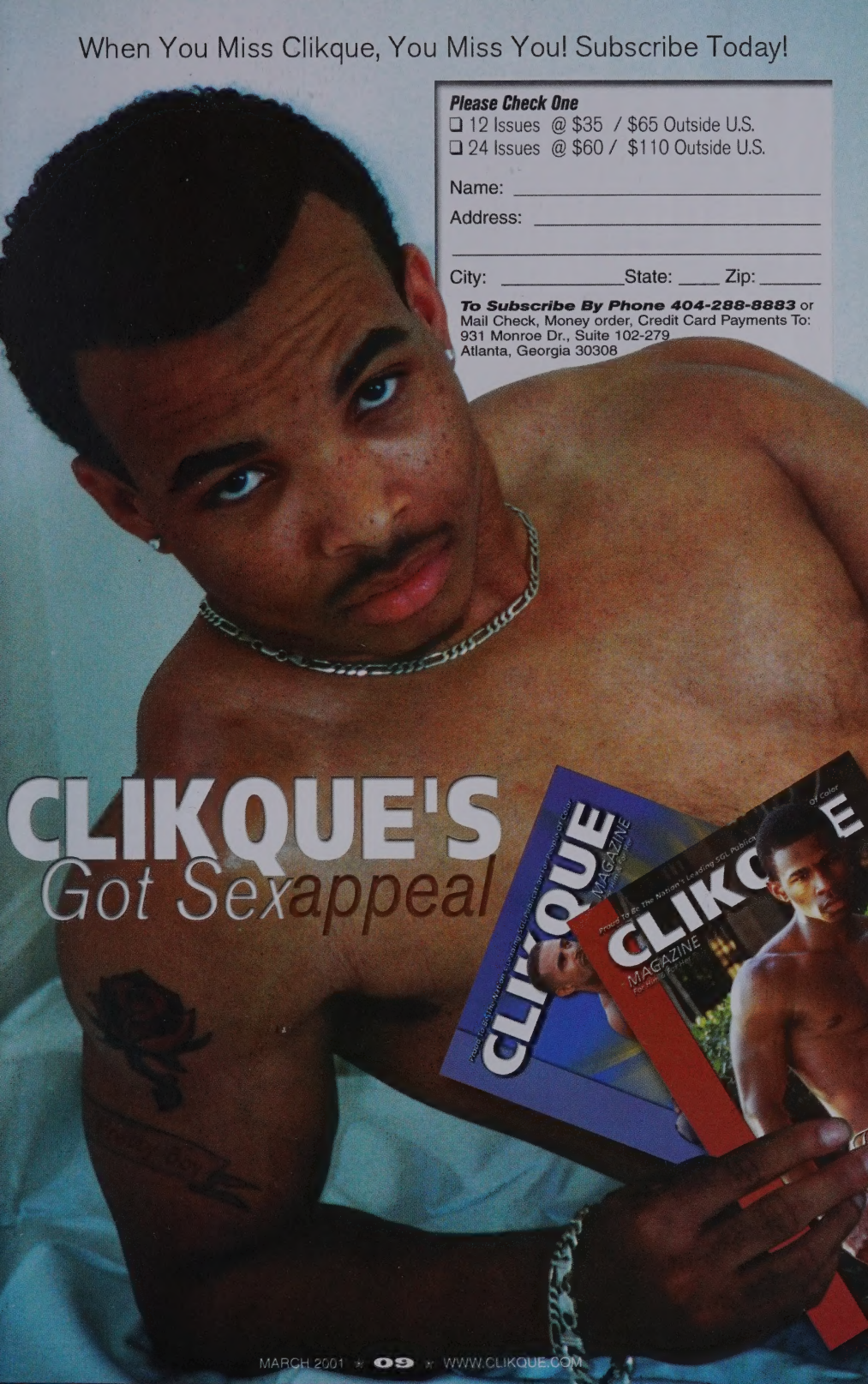

Hip Hop Artist Ja Rule

EDITORIAL

By Dwight Powell, Publisher & Editor-In-Chief

Over the past few months, our office must have gotten 10,000 calls from loyal supporters seeking the whereabouts of their beloved Clikque. Unfortunately, it took a little adversity for us to learn just how many of you enjoy Clikque each month. Now that the magazine is back on schedule, I trust that you will continue to keep the lines of communication open. We would really like to continue hearing from you; even when all is well.

In a few months, we will be celebrating our 3rd anniversary. Although there have been, some trying moments, the great times far outweigh my least enjoyable experiences. And that is due mostly impart to you; the supporters of Clikque Magazine. Over the years, so many of you have offered kind words of encouragement demanding that I continue to uplift, educate, and inform our brothers and sisters about various issues concerning us today.

While so many of you have thanked me for what it is that I do here at the magazine, I thank you even more. I thank you for affording me the opportunity to express myself, my ideas and my creative talents through Clikque Magazine. It would be extremely difficulty to do this without and open and receptive audience. My friends and others that know me, knows that I enjoy producing Clikque. So the statement,"

Where Would I Be Without You", isn't intended for my boy Derrick this time, but instead for you, the subscribers, readers and supporters of Clikque Magazine.

As long as you continue to stay in my corner, I will continue to serve you and our SGL community. Like Ja Rule said," When you need me, if you want me to put it on you (I will). Because I love you, and don't you forget it."

I don't know where I would be without you, but I am thrilled that I'm not there. I'm here, with you.

Thanks again for your support. Love always.

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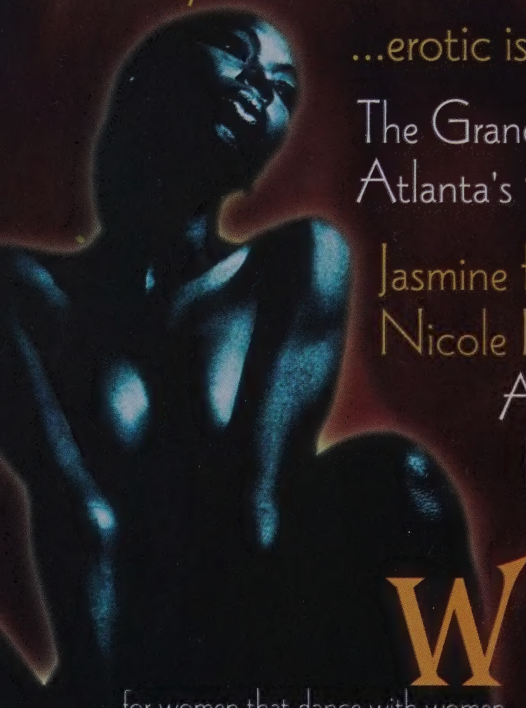

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From The Brown

BAGS TO B-BOYZ

The Politics Of Passing

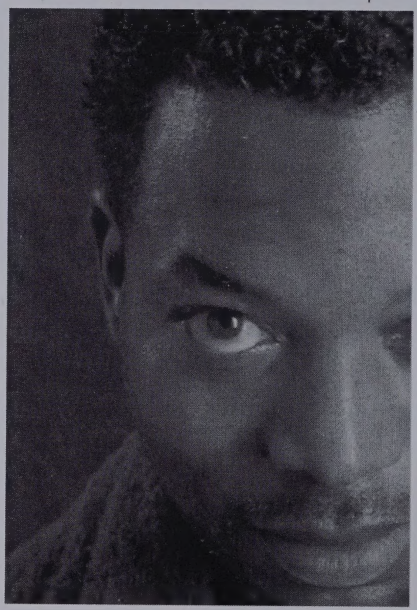
By: **A. OMAR**

In the final chapter of his national bestseller, Our Kind of People, author/ethnographer Lawrence Otis Graham tells the story of several individuals, past and present, living in this country and 'passing' as white.

This past Labor Day, I found myself in Atlanta hanging out with an acquaintance of mine who'd brought his best friend (a straight, Black womyn) to perennial dance den The Palace to 'come out' to her. Introducing her to "The Life", he lined up four men (which included me) and gave her a crash course in Black Male Homosociology.

"This one," he began, pointing to the far left. "Is a femme queen. She wears this and does that and so forth. No one wants her." He proceeded to lecture us on each man in the line, and how we became progressively "straighter" and more desirable as he made his way to the other end. "And this," he gasped at the boy at the end. "This is trade! This is what everyone wants! Girl, you could pass him on the street and you wouldn't even know [he is Gay]!"

It appears that we have inherited, in our Post Traumatic Slave Disorder, not only a color complex, but all the heterosexist insecurities of eurocentric patriarchalism. Our twisted obsession with 'passing,' stowed away in the baggage of our Middle Passage, now infests our new house of identity- our sexuality.



Across the country, Black Men's fixation with it's masculinity has reached fever pitch. The newest phlanax of patriarchal pawns are led by shirtless and stylishly ignorant Ruff Ryders and Cash Money Millionaires, who use lyrical litanies of their ghetto pedigree to authenticate their claims of being "real niggas". The last time I touched myself, I felt real to me. However, many of us who are Black and Gay, succumbing to an ever-present paranoia over our own manhood, have raced to purchase machismo's latest accessories, from uncomfortable clothes to music that disparages our very sexuality. In our attempts to ingratiate ourselves to those who often disapprove of what we do, we have begun to distance ourselves from those who already Love us for who we are. In trying to be 'down', we have sunken to the lowest levels of self-hate.

It's funny how the careers of the Black Men who publicly cultivate and play up our private differences are being subsidized by people who are neither Black or Gay (like the board of directors of Interscop/A&M/Geffen Records, who distribute Ruff Ryders recordings, and the millions of straight, pale suburbanites who guaranty their platinum positions). It's even funnier that this same type of divisive infighting has been encouraged in the past by outsiders attempting to divide us Afrikans in America and dilute our power. What is not funny is that many of us who are both Black and Gay do not see that connection, and many of us who do see the connection feel our public profiles make speaking out a precarious proposition (I'm guilty of that last one myself).

Being able to 'pass' brings about other not-so-new challenges in same gender loving relations, like tokenism. Yesterday's: "You're not like the others." approbation from whites has become today's: "When I look at you, I don't see someone who is gay." compliment from heterosexuals. In case you are still confused, neither is truly a compliment. But don't try to convince those who aspire desperately to "keep their shit on the DL" of that fact.

Perhaps, one day, weekly 'trade shows' like the one Fridays at Atlanta's (Con)Fusion and romantic calls for "a real (translation: masculine) brotha" will seem as antiquated and grotesque as black face burlesques and skin lightening cream. Perhaps, one day, we won't, as individuals, hold close in the dark those who will not hold us in the light. Perhaps, one day soon, femininity will even be fashionable.

Sound far fetched? Growing up as a dark skinned Afrikan in America in the 1980s, I never imagined the day I would be in vogue. These days, many men "love them some chocolate brothas", but such has not always been the case. Burning your hair with relaxer and spending summers in the shade was as unamusing for some then as wearing jeans three sizes too big and spending nights holding up walls on the hip-hop side of a club is for others now.

Hopefully, when femininity does have it's day, it won't be at the expense of masculinity, or anything else. Hopefully, no one will feel pressured to change their character with their clothes. Hopefully, it will not once again take an outsider's affirmation to stimulate our community's acceptance of its(whole)self, the way Ralph Lauren's 'discovery' of model Tyson Beckford made us suddenly realize in the early 90s that "(Dark) Black is Beautiful".

But, in the final analysis, how we mature- as individual men and as a community- will be determined by how we choose to see ourselves and how we allow others to see us. I'm certain this path is easier written than walked. As E. E. Cummings reminds us, "It takes courage to grow up and turn out to be who you really are."

–CM–

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Contestant:
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from Memphis, Tn.

Contestant:
Necole Luv Dupree
from Atlanta, Ga.

Contestant:
Jasmine Bonet
from Atlanta, Ga.

Former Miss Clikque
America 2000
Teryl-Lynn Foxx

Tenisha
Being
Crowned By
Teryl-Lynn

Contestant:
from Dallas, Tx.

Contestant:
Fantasia
from Detroit MI

Contestant:
Victoria Secrets
from Atlanta, Ga.

MISS CLIKQUE AMERICA 2000 FINAL RESULTS

Miss Clikque America 2001 Results

2nd alt.: Jasmine Bonet, Atlanta
1st alt.: Necole Luv Dupree, Atlanta
Winner: Tenisha Casadine, Memphis

2000 Lifetime Achievement Recipient:
Lady Fabian Sanchez

CATEGORY WINNERS

Best Interview: (Ms.) Necole Luv Dupree
Best Presentation: (Ms.) Tenisha Casadine
Best Talent: (Ms.) Tenisha Casadine
Best Eveningwear: (Ms.) Jasmine Bonet

PAGEANT WAS HELD
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IN ATLANTA, GA.

SEE PAGES 38-39
FOR MORE ON OUR
QUEEN

Miss Clikque America 2001
Tenísha Casadine

Former Miss Clikque America 2000
Teryl-Lynn Foxx

Cover Girl Entertainment By
Stasha Sanchez

Entertainment By
Tommie Ross

Entertainment By Clikque Emeritus
Tamisha Iman

Entertainment By
Raquel Lord

HIV/AIDS UPDATES

Clikque Magazine

Dateline: February 26, 2001; Dallas, Texas. African American men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM) whether one is gay, bisexual, getting their "freak on" or just "messing around" are at a historical point in our existence in this country. The decisions we make and the actions that we take, over the next four years, will determine whether or not we shall continue as a body of people (in any significant numbers) in this nation. Oftentimes some of my colleagues and critics have accused me of being too alarmist regarding my concerns about the HIV epidemic and it's impact on African American MSM. On January 9, 2001, at the 8th Annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, my alarms were vindicated. It was on that day, at that conference (at which I was in attendance), that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released preliminary data from a study that was conducted in seven major cities (Baltimore, Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle) called the Young Men's Study (YMS) that may just be the sound of the "death knell" for African American MSM.

EXTINCTION OR REVOLUCTION

The purpose of the study was to determine the prevalence of HIV, Hepatitis B (HVB) and syphilis infection among young MSM and risks that these individuals had subjected themselves to that had led to such infections. The study was done in two phases. Phase 1 surveyed 15 to 22 year old MSM between 1994 and 1995; Phase 2 surveyed 23 to 29 year old MSM from 1998 to 2000. The initial findings, released for the Dallas area, sent shockwaves through the conference. ***The Phase 2 findings showed African Americans, in the Dallas area, with an HIV infection rate of 32%, HBV infection rate of 35% and a syphilis infection rate of 9%. The HIV infection rate among young African American MSM was nearly three times that of their white counterparts. The HBV infection rate was nearly twice that of young Anglo MSM and the syphilis rate was almost nine (9) times that of whites in the same sampling group.*** Simply put, one out of three African American gay, bisexual and MSM young men, between the ages of 23 to 29 was infected with HIV (one out of three)!

I will not be shy about the implications of these numbers, their being correct, we are facing nothing short of a holocaust, and the eventual extinction of African American gay and bisexual men as a distinct body of people within society. You do not have to be a rocket scientist to figure this out. If we extrapolate these numbers out over time, without effective intervention, HIV infection rates, within varying segments of the African American MSM community could, conceivably, reach 70 to 80 percent. We are facing nothing less than our impending doom as a body of people if we

Seven City Study Found

1 OF 3 YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN

that are gay or bisexual between the ages of 23 to 29 are infected with HIV

do not take accountability and responsibility for stopping this epidemic in its tracks.

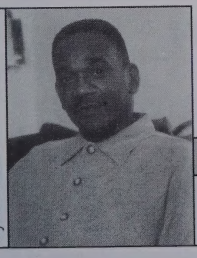
There are some additional findings within the YMS report that are not only interesting but also quite relevant to our development of effective interventions to halt this "death march" by young African American MSM. ***97% of the study participants reported having had anal sex with a man. Of that number 52% reported having had unprotected anal sex within the last six months. Those having unprotected insertive sex were 41% and those having unprotected receptive sex were 38%. The education levels of those in the study were as follows: High School graduates 19%; some college 34%; college degree or higher 40%. These were not ignorant semi-literate "morons". 84% of the study participants were employed full-time. These were not street hustlers looking for a quick date and a hit of crack. One of the findings was that many participants perceived themselves at "low risk" for HIV infection and gave that as the reason for not getting tested. The majority of participants reported being very aware of the methodology of HIV transmission. The use of drugs and alcohol by the participants apparently influenced their sexual risk taking. More than half (57%) of the participants reported being "buzzed" on alcohol during sex within the past six months. 96% reported using alcohol, 57% marijuana, 39% cocaine and 40% poppers/nitrates. The marriage between being gay and substance use continues.***

In total, the report was nothing short of tragic. Dallas is not alone in this heightened crisis. Preliminary data from New York City indicates that the HIV infection rate among African American MSM in that city will be reported at 34%. The study was not conducted in Atlanta; however, one can only imagine what the grim figures would be from there. I can only conclude that we must either continue to apace with this self inflicted "death march" (or could it be a death wish) or we must engage in a massive, community by community revolution in our thinking, feeling and actions. Anything short of such a revolution will not be enough.

On February 21st a town-hall meeting was held in Dallas to discuss the findings of the YMS report, what prevention service providers are doing and what we could do better. No definitive solutions came forth except for my call for a revolution within the African American gay, bisexual and MSM community. During the Retrovirus Conference I had an opportunity to interview Dr. Helene Gayle, Director of the CDC's HIV/STD Division. She is keenly aware of the study's findings and committed to helping our community address the crisis. We both agreed that in the face of this unrelenting epidemic we must be creative in devising new strategies to impact the African American MSM community.

Some thoughts, ideas and suggestions on how to do that in next month's column. Until then not only stay safe but also stay alive.

–CM–



By: **DON SNEED** – Staff

Want More Information On This Topic?

HIV/AIDS Editor Don Sneed is the Director at Renaissance III, a Dallas based organization serving African Americans in the fight against HIV/AIDS. If you would like additional information on this topic, Don can be reached via email at ***donsneed@clikque.com*** *Other: www.cdc.com, www.cnn.com/health.html*

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The MEAT MARKET

Will That Be Pickup or Delivery ?

Dear Diary,

I am reminiscent of the times when I first started going to the clubs. I can recall learning a great deal. Life unquestionably dealt me plenty of unique cards during those years back then. After learning such things as what "clubnight" meant, keeping up with the constant change of House Music, learning the different dance steps, remembering the names I'd received "last week", keeping up with the town's seasonal functions (which brought many people into town), and just plain finding something to wear - - - kept me busy and at that times made me one content person. After awhile, I made plenty of friends, learned some dance steps & stayed out all night long as if tomorrow had no boundaries of anything that really mattered. The club was truly indeed a MEAT MARKET to say the least, but, primarily, I would not indulge.

The times that I went partying at first were exclusively for mingling purposes –- I must admit. I, then, "graduated with honors" to making dates with whom I thought would be potential mates for the future. HA !! That is a joke now that I think about it. Later, with the onset of STD's on the rise, I decided to chill and pull myself together (as one of my friends would say). Diary, I have to say that at the present, although club life can be enticing, it definitely has downplayed itself in my life today.

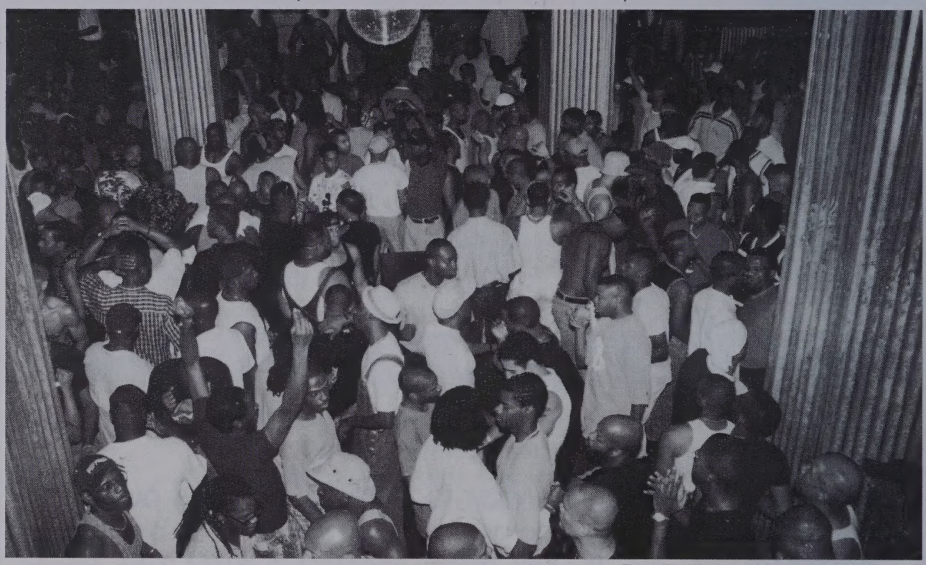
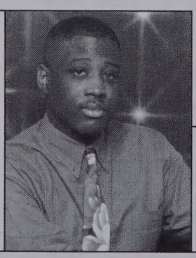


Photo: TRAXX Nightclub in Atlanta by Dwight Powell

The club, however, is still an interesting subject to digress upon. In what was once MY LIFE, I have to admit that today the reasons for going to the club have not changed in most peoples' minds. In my opinion, people visit the



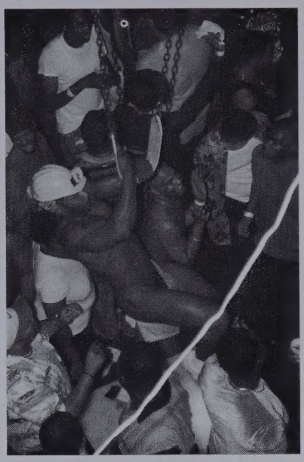
By: **ALAN "MC" SHERMAN**

Alan "MC" Sherman, 29, resident of Atlanta, is a journalist & freelance writer. He started writing at the age of seven from which he wrote a series of little short stories & poems. He is the author of three editorial compositions published in Reader's Digest along with a impending essay in Essence Magazine. Being fascinated by words and their origins, Alan currently adds to his writing accolades, two poems published in The National Library of Poetry. He holds a bachelor's degree in English Journalism from The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Alan can be reached at alansherman@clikque.com.

clubs because they are either bored, lonely, sociable, horny, like to dance, like to drink or simply they go "to the club to rub". I do not listen nor care what anyone says or thinks when they state that they only go just to have a good time. "Wanted" sex is in the music, in the clothes, in the air, in the cologne and on the dance floor. I am not saying you must give in and touch after looking, but it is tough at times. Whether you go to meet someone or just to have fun, there is an aura of expectation in the air. Of course, you hope you meet someone. Everyone secretly does. We all want to be noticed and what better way to be noticed than that of all places : Club Meat Market.

Just think for a moment of what the club entails. From the time you park your car or say, "so long" to M.A.R.T.A., you see immaculate men hovering in the entranceway. Well-toned physiques, neatly shaven faces and heads, crispy starched matching outfits (for some, ensembles) with a small pinch of Brooks Brother's cologne leads the way of what is to behold inside. From the time the club is entered, walking in gently is pretty much a smart option. Scoping out the mix is the first order of business. To your amaze-ment and to your left, you see a man that can truly be called "Prime Cut USDA" beef waiting to be sliced and savored. Okay, the men on your right have great bodies, too and can be called "Bird, Yams, Sausage, T-bone & Ox". You envision your (bed), ooops plate in the middle of the dance floor indulging yourself to no end. You envision all the trimmings, as well. You really HAM it up when you see 5lbs of flesh heading your way only to bypass you for their boyfriend the SALAM! coming from the bathroom. All sorts of men are in the room including the ones you would rather not talk to because of all the TURKEY they are talking, but then again this is normal for Club Meat Market. How is that for food for thought.

Now, that the room has been scoped, you see people with whom relations have already transpired and of those that you are "working" on. You also see the twelve types of people EVERY club



has & are as following:

1. "TC" Men = those men who feel to be "Too Cute" to ever approach anyone let alone bring their noses down for a reality check. Trust me, by the end of the night most become "easy" like Sunday morning.

2. "Summa" Men = those men who thrive to wear clothes that tease. You eventually see "some of" this & "some of" that; for example, Overalls with only one strap fastened & entirely nothing on underneath.

3. "Fame" Men = those men who feel they are auditioning for FAME. They seem to lose 5 lbs. just from one song. I have to admit they are entertaining to watch.

4. "Muscle" Men = so called Butch men who have seemingly borrowed their clothes from their sister's doll, but at the same time their bodies ARE still good to look at.

5. "Vulture" Men = those men who specifically swoop down to prey on the men who are involved in relationships. You know who you are. Stop It !!

6. "Insurance Agent" Men = those who are ready, able & willing to give out a name card or business card already printed for future "conversation".

7. "Dirty Dancing" Men = those men who really get jiggy with it by acting like Stevie Wonder feeling on one's body during a slow or favorite song.

8. "Wallflower" Men = those men who simply adore holding the wall up for fear that the wall will fall. I guess there is nothing wrong in sight seeing.

9. "Noseless" Men = those men who apply way too much cologne because obviously their noses can not smell it. Just a tip: No cologne is better than too much.

10. "AA" Men = those men who are constantly at the bar or smoking something too much the whole night and will almost do anything when you meet them because they are too intoxicated or high to think straight.

11. "Bookbag Battery" Men = those men who wear a bookbag to the club. Nothing says, "I'm EverReady!" more than going out with a change of clothes along with a toothbrush, deodorant, comb, & towel.

12. "DragQueens" = this is a given!!

Clubs that pose as meat markets are always jumping and will always have leftovers for those that missed out the week before. To the avid club attendee, after visitations to the parks, bath houses, sex clubs, internet personals & chat rooms, house parties, gyms and (sad to say) the illegal public places, Club Meat Market is by far the only proven safe standby if common sense is used. Here is a little advice. If you are searching too hard, you are going to be disappointed. Stop looking for love. It does not work that way. Focus on your self-improvement. Extend yourself to others. Present the best person inside yourself that you can to those you encounter. Love will find you.

Remember, meat markets have been around for years and they have no immediate need to stop their success. The only thing a good decision makes for in this situation is whether you will succumb to the derogatory suggestions that a meat market portrays. The last time you were there, were you easy to meet OR "easy" meat? The next time you are in a club & someone shamelessly asks, "have we slept together?", you know you are in the right place. Your only decision now is will it be "for here or to go".

Good Night Diary!!

–CM–

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POETRY TIME
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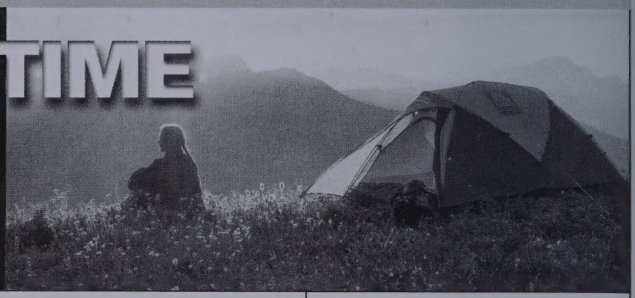
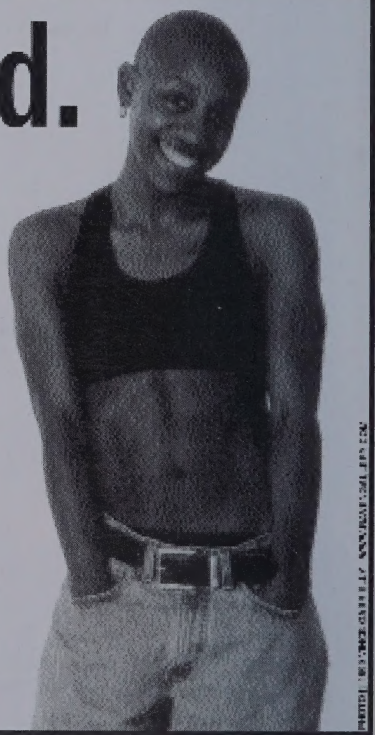


i'm tryin' to tell you
anonymous

None of the other loves you've ever had before can prepare you for the passions boiling over inside of me. I wonder if you're ready for the unimaginable lust that I could unleash on your body, unleash on your soul. No other touch of the hand will burn and sear your flesh like mine as it casually makes its way down your muscular neck, across your nipples, even further down your seductive ab's and linger by your waistline. No other drugs addiction can draw you to the deepest throws of insanity like the feel of my warm, soft, succulent lips as they kiss your belly button. Boy, i'm tryin' to tell you that no hunger grips your stomach like the hunger your every fiber of being will feel when you leave my embrace. you don't know much about longing until you've loved me.

No nectar could be sweeter than the sweat that beads over my body and slowly rolls into my valleys, collecting into a pool waiting for your tongue. No thirst will compare to what you will feel when I pull you away from my nipples. Pain, such excruciating, intoxicating, exquisite pain you will feel when i use only my tongue on your spine. No device exists that can measure the heat that will bubble in your belly when we combine and melt within each other. ohhhhhhh!!!.....no relationship you've ever taken part in will consume you like I will. I am that dream at night that makes you feverish and perspire. I am the reason your manhood stands attentive in the morning. I'm tryin' to tell you, I am the taste that you can't quite put your finger on. That taste that you hunger for. It's me.
–CM–

Buffed. Bold. Beautiful.



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POETRY TIME
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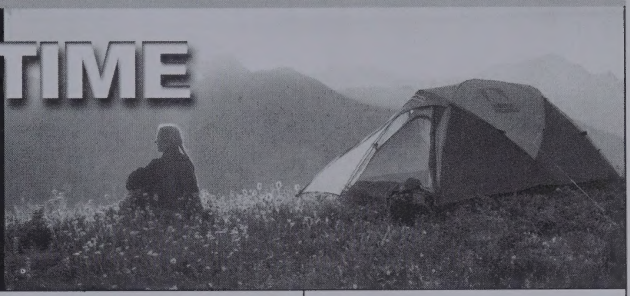


i cry
(for the lost ones)

I cry at homecomings, at make ups, at good byes, at mothers love for a child, at fathers bouncing children on their knees, at friends caring for one another.

I cry at the loss of love, at the loss of loved ones, at the loss of loved ones from AIDS, I cry because AIDS has killed so many of my friends, because one day AIDS may claim my life too.

I cry at the founding of freedom...I mean real freedom, at the forgiving, at the forgetting, at the remembering, at even the reminding.

I cry when I think of, BG, Jay, Willie, Jeff, Dwayne, Frank, and more, whose lives were claimed by AIDS, Thank God they touched my life.

I cry when I think of Darrell Kevin Williams, of David Dior, whose lives were brutally ended from senseless violent killings, thank God they gave to me and my life.

I cry at new beginnings, at old endings, at sad movies, at love stories, at found courage, at lost fears. I cry. I shed tears.

I cry for old wounds, for new endeavors, for feelings swooned, for memories remembered.

I cry at wind blows, at lettings goes, at touchy moments, at loves sentiments, at stories told, taking hold. Thank God, Tears uplift the spiritual condition of my soul

I CRY...

needing

My heart is trapped in the confines of time, & my soul is numb from the longing. I reap the scars of abandonment, Marks you left, Having never came.

My days are empty and I chase long forgotten monkeys, offering-up my back once more.

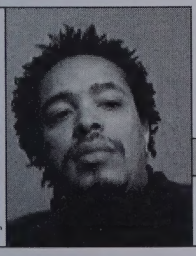
Shadows cover the land as my eyes grow weary from seeking, Hungry from not finding.

Theaters, stores, museums, book stores, even dark parks offer no resolutions.

Romeo...oh Romeo, where forth...iz U B mah brotha, Climb the bannister of my heart & free me from my confines, Pierce the numbness of my soul and free-up my longing. Kiss away the scars & release me from my monkeys. Fill my hungry soul with you, & Lay beside me, Until I'm Needing no more.

"siempre"

My nights are restless since you've left, As dark tides ebb the shores of Maracus Bay, Rushing in like naked nymphs, Understanding my needs, & leaving a slight trace of white lace, Which I will use as in mourning. As the waters rushes back to its beginning,
A shore where on
Ash Wednesdays,
Under Rays of Light,
Poured down from Ra,
Revelers go to be reborn,
Offering-up sacrifice & dance,
To Chinese Laundry & Atlantik, And...
At nights Fall Lovers recapture each others passion Under moonlight & bonfires.
Red nights long,
Gray mornings pass short,
Now I too am standing in
Rays of Light, under a dark moon sky, Wanting to be reborn...
Wanting back my reveler...
Wanting to cook a sacrificial meal...
Wanting the slow dance of our conversations...
Wanting to take you again by moonlight, (& let out love making paint the sheets, a homage to Picasso),
By moonlight,
And be your bonfire.
But now,
Morning will be here soon,
& perhaps...
In the few short hours 'till Dawn...
I will sleep...and dream...
Of...
Dark tides...
Maracus Bay...
& You...
My reveler...
Under moonlight & bonfires...
Hasta entonces,
Buenos noches, mi amor secrete...
para siempre jamas!



By: **ANDY SAUNDERS**

Want More Information On This Topic?

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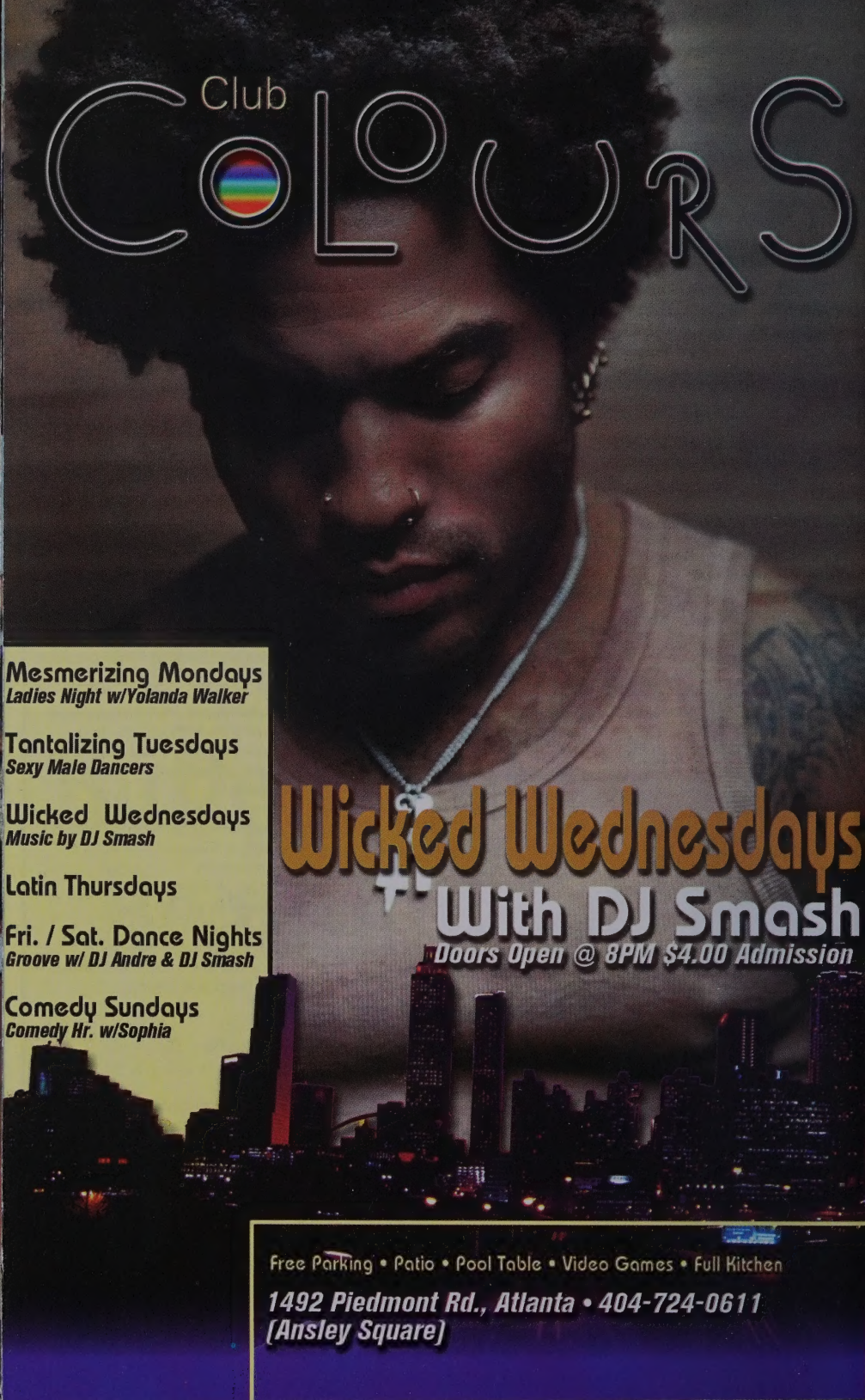
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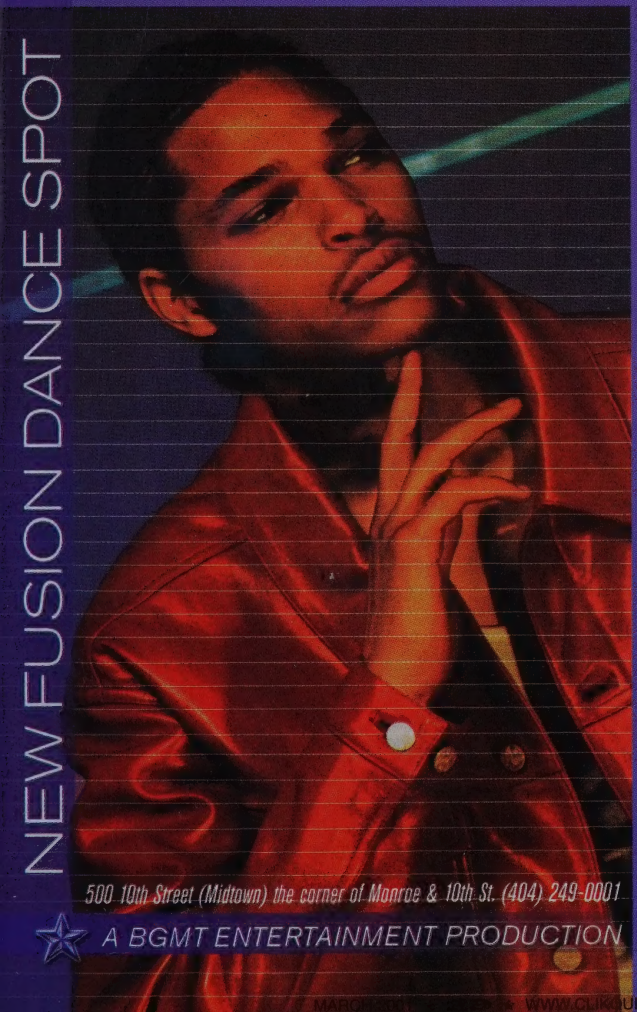

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MARCH 2ND-OLD SKOOL NIGHT

The Best in Classics • Hip Hop in the Mainroom
House in the Vybe Room

MARCH 9TH-BALLROOM MADNESS

HOST: THE HOUSE OF EBONY
5 Categories beginning @ 1:30
Miniball in the Mainroom • Hip Hop in the Vye Rm

MARCH 16TH-OLD SKOOL NIGHT

The Best in Classics
House in the Vybe Rm • Hip Hop in the Mainroom

MARCH 23RD-BALLROOM MADNESS

HOST: THE HOUSE OF GALLIANO
5 Categories beginning @ 1:30
Miniball in the Mainroom • Hip Hop in the Vybe Rm

MARCH 30TH-COLLEGE NIGHT

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Hip Hop in the Mainroom • House in the Vybe Rm

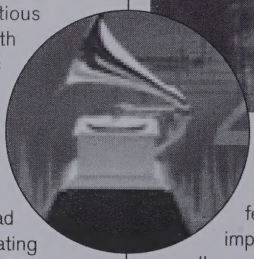
WRAP-UP

43rd GRAMMYs Celebration Is In The Books

A spectacular night and 100 award categories celebrate music's diversity

The 43rd Annual GRAMMY Awards began by adding two categories (to make a full 100) last year, grew controversial by nominated rapper Eminem in the Album Of The Year category in January, and ended Wednesday night by bringing the celebration of diverse musical genres to TV's most spectacular evening of music.

When all was said and done, Eminem's contentious performance with Elton John was notable only for the depth of its expression and the teamwork of two different generations of stars. Steely Dan had an amazingly validating night, as the veteran duo took three GRAMMYs (their first ever), including the coveted Album Of The Year award.



Eminem still made his presence felt with two wins in rap categories. His producer and mentor, Dr. Dre, also earned the Producer Of The Year award.

Country singer Faith Hill, who enjoyed a tremendously fruitful year at a time when the growth of country music has stalled somewhat, won three GRAMMYs, including Best Country Album, cementing her position as the hottest voice (and face) on the Nashville scene.

U2 also made a big splash at the show, a feat made all the more impressive because their album, All That You Can't Leave Behind, didn't fall into the eligibility period. On the strength of the dynamic track "Beautiful Day," the band earned three GRAMMYs, including Record Of The Year and Song Of The Year.

While last year, the Best New Artist award went to a 19 year-old newcomer named Christina Aguilera, this year the trophy was taken by a journeyman who literally reinvented herself with her latest album. The emotive singer Shelby Lynne also had the opportunity to perform with GRAMMY staple Sheryl Crow on the telecast.

The show also highlighted pianist Marc-André Hamelin, who no doubt won some new converts with his dextrous playing, despite failing to win a GRAMMY. Dolly Parton, performing with another Best New Artist nominee, Brad Paisley, brought her current return to bluegrass to the audience.

And Madonna, who opened the show just as she did the 41st GRAMMYs, brought a party atmosphere to the festivities right from the start. Unlike two years ago, when she opened with a slower song and more stately performance, her "Music" was highlighted by acrobatic dance moves and a loudly decorated limousine piloted by young rapper Lil' Bow Wow.

Other multiple winners included blues giant B.B. King, R&B singer D'Angelo, rockers Foo Fighters and the genre-hopping Béla Fleck.

Despite a month's worth of talk and debate over the GRAMMYs' purported celebration of hateful lyrics, the show proved, as it always does, that rather than divide and estrange people, music brings different segments of society together, even if for one night, in harmony and celebration.

–CM–

43RD GRAMMY® AWARDS

RESULTS

RECORD OF THE YEAR
Beautiful Day, *U2*

ALBUM OF THE YEAR
Two Against Nature, *Steely Dan*

SONG OF THE YEAR
Beautiful Day, *U2*

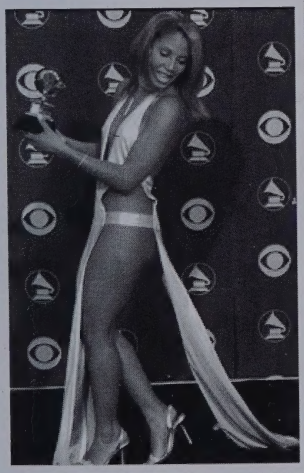
BEST NEW ARTIST
Shelby Lynne

BEST FEMALE POP VOCAL PERFORMANCE
I Try, *Macy Gray*

BEST DANCE RECORDING
Who Let The Dogs Out
Baha Men

BEST POP VOCAL ALBUM
Two Against Nature, *Steely Dan*

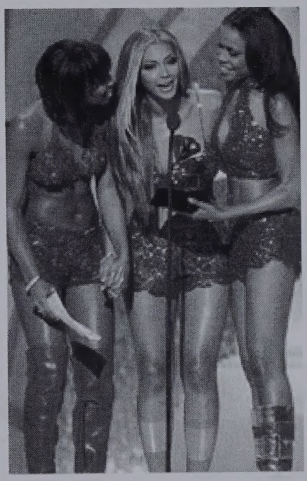
BEST FEMALE R&B VOCAL PERFORMANCE
He Wasn't Man Enough
Toni Braxton



BEST MALE R&B VOCAL PERFORMANCE
Untitled, *D'Angelo*

BEST R&B PERFORMANCE BY A DUO OR GROUP WITH VOCAL
Say My Name, *Destiny's Child*

BEST R&B SONG
Say My Name
(Destiny's Child)

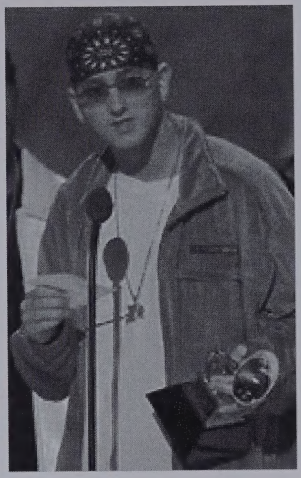


BEST R&B ALBUM
Voodoo, *D'Angelo*

BEST TRADITIONAL R&B VOCAL ALBUM
Ear-Resistible, *The Temptations*

BEST RAP SOLO PERFORMANCE
The Real Slim Shady, *Eminem*

BEST RAP PERFORMANCE BY A DUO OR GROUP
Forgot About Dre, *Dr. Dre*
Featuring Eminem



BEST RAP ALBUM
The Marshall Mathers LP,
Eminem

BEST TRADITIONAL SOUL GOSPEL ALBUM
You Can Make It, *Shirley Caesar*

BEST CONTEMPORARY SOUL GOSPEL ALBUM
Thankful, *Mary Mary*

BEST REGGAE ALBUM
Art And Life, *Beenie Man*

BEST SPOKEN WORD ALBUM
The Measure Of A Man,
Sidney Poitier

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR,
Non-Classical
Dr. Dre

Want More Information On This Topic?

This is only a partial list of all the awards that were presented at the Grammys this year. If you would like to see the full list of 100 winners and nominees, visit www.grammys.com

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Atlanta GAY & LESBIAN CTR.

Attempts To Attract More African Americans To The Center

Welcome to the Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Center. If you are lesbian, gay, bisexual,transgendered, queer,same-gender-loving,two-spirited, questioning or supportive of these communities then we are here for you. Since we opened our doors in 1976, we have provided a safe space and services for lgbt people in Atlanta and surrounding areas.

HOME FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

We are indeed a community center. We provide support and space for organizations and discussion groups to meet. We also host social and cultural events and activities for people to meet and have a good time in a safe environment.

HIV/STD TESTING CLINIC

Our Clinic is the only local testing site that is open during evening hours Monday through Friday 5:30PM to 9PM. We offer anonymous HIV testing with pre- and post-test counseling; testing for syphillis, gonnorhea and chlamydia; and screening and vaccines for Hepatitis A and B.

THE HELPLINE

Its 404-525-HELP. We provide emergency assistance, resource info and a place to be heard. Due to a shortage of volunteers, the Helpline is staffed from 5:30PM to 9PM on Thursday evenings only. We are recruiting more volunteers so that we can expand these hours in the near future. Calls recorded with contact info will be answered as soon as possible.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

The Center hosts several facilitated discussion groups which provide opportunities for social and spiritual bonding, information-sharing and support. We currently feature 3 groups and we will be adding more in the near future.

WOMEN'S GROUP
1st and 3rd Tuesdays
7PM @the Center

MEN'S GROUP
Every Thursday
7PM @the Center

20-SOMETHING GROUP
1st Sunday 6:30PM
@ Innovox Lounge
699 Ponce de Leon

THE LIBRARY

With over 2000 volumes, the AGLC Library is the largest library devoted to lgbt subject matter in the Southeast. Use of the Library and book check-out are free. Contact us for more info on operating hours.

A PLACE TO SERVE

We couldn't do what we do without our volunteers! We encourage you to consider the Center as a means by which you can be of service to others in your community. Our programs and services depend on the participation of people like you who are willing to give of themselves so that they may help others. Here are some areas where you can help make a big difference through the Center. Orientation and training will be provided by the Center.

- Library assistants
- Helpline counselors
- Clinic counselors and receptionists
- Outreach/Publicity
- Spruce-Up Work

WHERE WE'RE AT

The Center is located at 159 Ralph McGill Blvd on the 6th Fl, that's downtown Atlanta on Ralph McGill Blvd and Piedmont, across from the Civic Center. It's a short walk from the Civic Center MARTA station and several bus routes. To reach our parking lot drive up Piedmont and turn left into the lot before you reach Ralph McGill Blvd. Walk outside the lot and around the corner to enter the front of the building. Otherwise parking is usually available in the lot right across Ralph McGill Blvd from us.

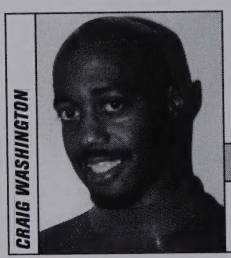
CENTER HOURS

2:00PM - 9:00PM
Monday through Friday

CLINIC HOURS

5:30PM - 9:00PM
Monday - Thursday

Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Center
Craig Washington
Executive Director
159 RALPH MCGILL BLVD
Suite 600
Atlanta, GA 30308
404-523-7500
404-525-4357 (Fax)
404-525-HELP (Helpline)
e-mail
atlantaglc@mindspring.com
website www.aglc.org



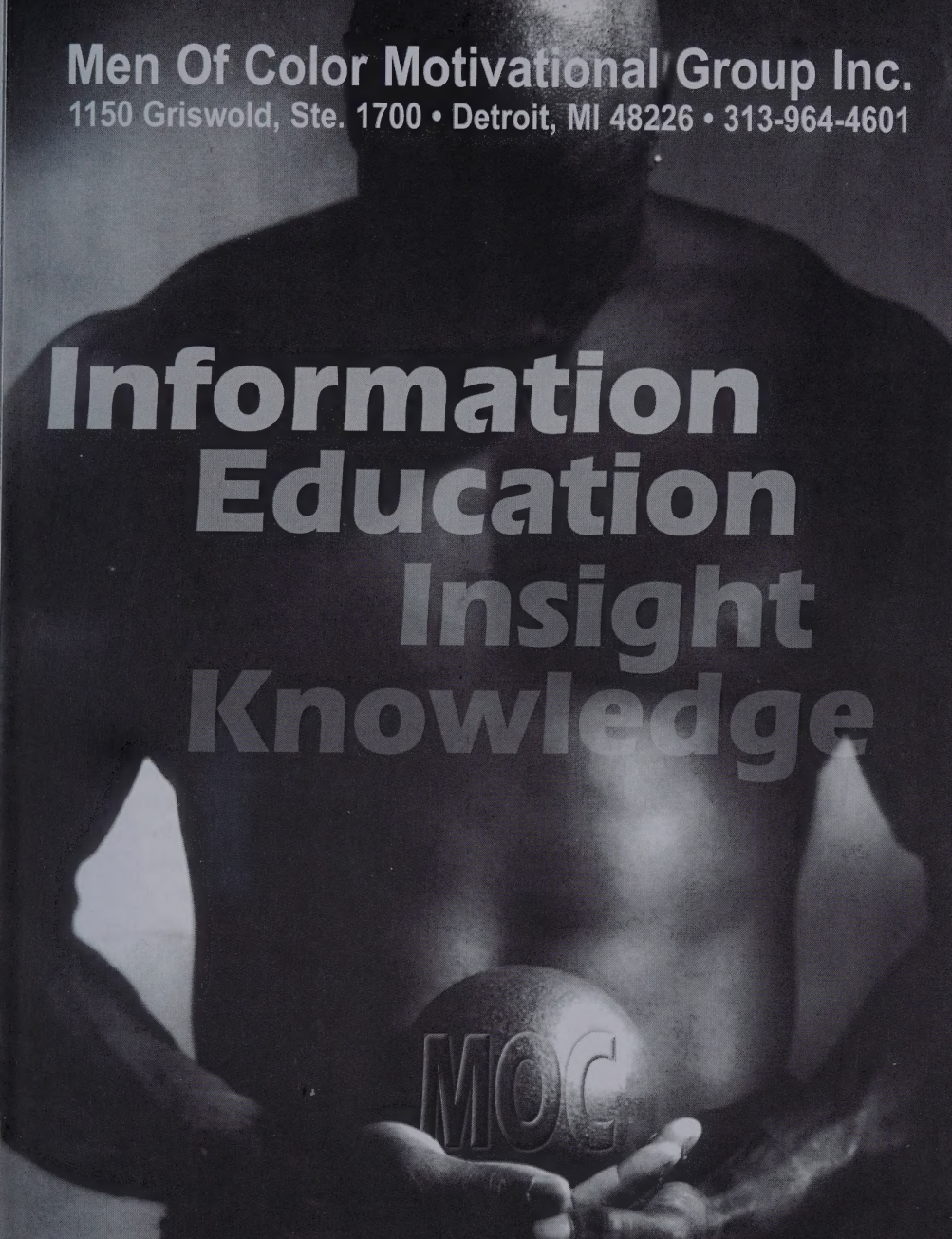
CRAIG WASHINGTON

Want More Information On This Topic?

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Clikque Staff writer, Craig Washington as new Executive Director of the Atlanta Gay & Lesbian Center.

Men Of Color Motivational Group Inc.

1150 Griswold, Ste. 1700 • Detroit, MI 48226 • 313-964-4601



MEN OF COLOR MOTIVATIONAL GROUP INC. strives to empower African-American gay/bisexual/transgender men by providing information, education, insight, and knowledge on day to day issues in the African-American community. MOC advocates positive health strategies and non-biased information dissemination and education. Education and motivation of African-American men is our primary concern in order to bridge gaps of understanding and knowledge. We encourage openness, trust, and most of all mutual respect for one another.

Although the need of the African-American male is our primary focus, Men of Color welcome the participation of all community minded individuals. Our organization is equally aware of and sensitive to the needs of the community as a whole.

Components of our program include safer sex workshops, providing speakers for organizations and community outreach efforts, primary and secondary prevention case management and housing assistance programs, bars, and club outreach, material distribution and HIV/AIDS Peer Training, and HIV/AIDS Anonymous/Confidential Counseling and Testing.

In Focus

CLUB LIFE

Popular Atlanta Hotspot Changes It's Name & Clientele

Formally the Otherside, Club Rarity has been an Atlanta staple for the past 10 years. Like TRAXX and The Palace, this club boast the most loyal clientele in the city, and probably the country.

Beverly Johnson, the club's owner recalls that when she and her partner initially opened The Otherside, they had envisioned an upscale club catering to both a male and female clientele. However, over the years, The Otherside became known primarily as a hotspot for lesbians and their gay friends.

For the past few years, the club began experiencing a dramatic shift from a female dominate venue to a boy club and Hump Wednesday nights in Atlanta belonged to the Otherside. Competing club promoters came and went, came and went, came and went. No other club in the city could come close to capturing the FLAVA that the Otherside had managed to acquire over the years. The Club became a hub where everyone came together. From your everyday party seekers to other club promoters this is definitely the place to be. For years the club offered the most relaxed atmosphere and the best Damn Hip-Hop night in the South. Everyone knows that all holiday weekends begins on Wednesdays in Atlanta. Standing room only is the order of the day.

Now ten years later, Club Rarity has evolved into a full fledge boy club. The "ladies" are also welcomed. Beverly had made many updates and continues to upgrade the facility. Party goers have the option of relaxing on the huge covered patio as the wind presses against their faces or indulged themselves in one of the club's three lavish, quint lounges. The lounges are soo conformable, for a brief moment, you might think your at home. Be careful not to fall asleep on any of the club's choozie, relaxing leather sofas.

The Rarity, now opened 7 days a week begins pouring at 4 for happyhour (M-F). This is the perfect spot to toss your hat, loosen your tie and through your feet up after a hard days work. Oh, don't forget to order a cold one.

–*CM*–

New Name, Same Great Time

Want More Information On This Topic?

If you would like to get information on other clubs around the country, please refer to pages 58 and 59 for an extensive list of clubs. You can also visit ***www.chocolatecityusa.com*** *for a list of nightclubs.*

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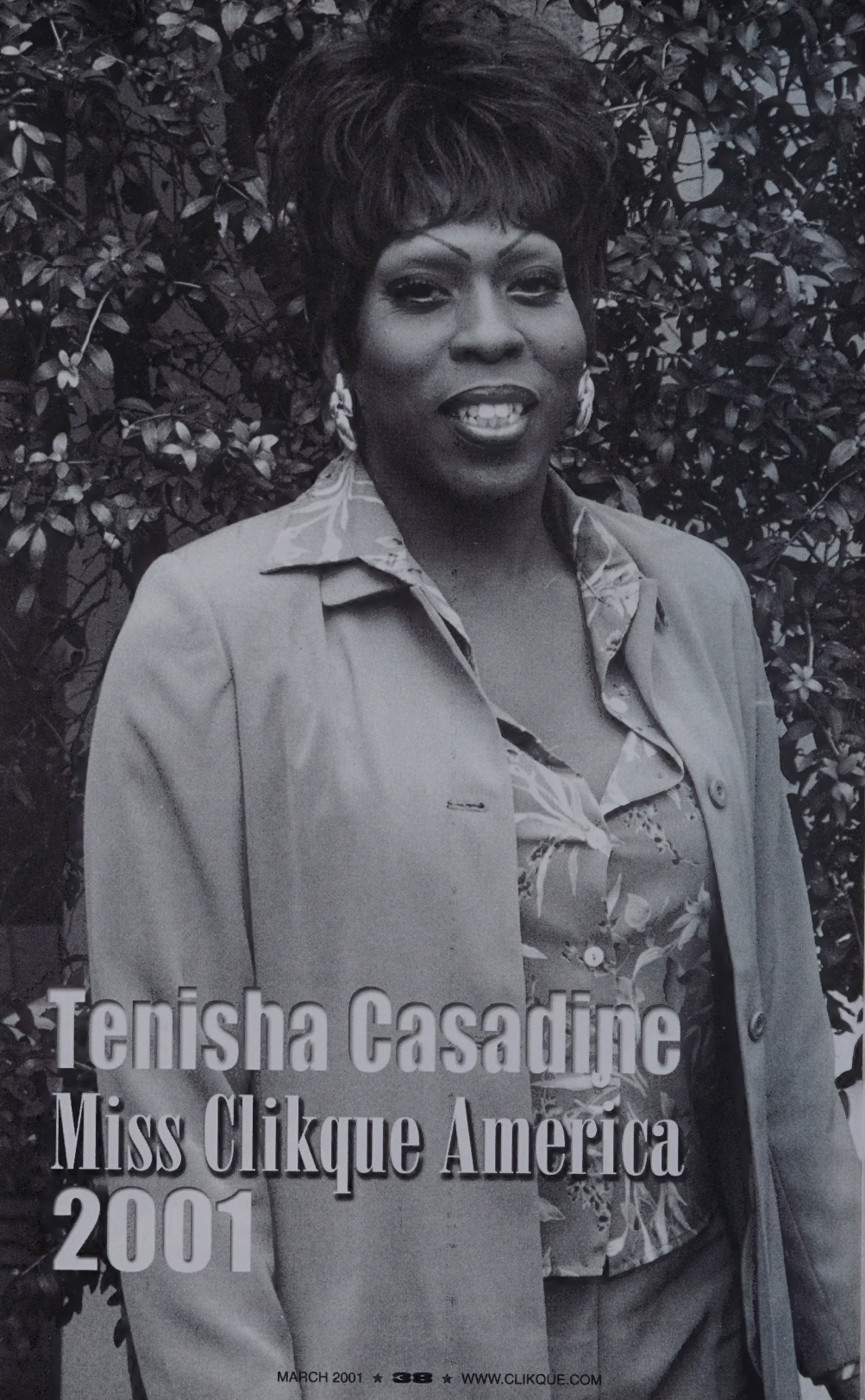

Tenisha Casadine
Miss Clikque America
2001

Born September 16, 1968 under the astrological sign of Virgo, Tenisha Casadine, a 32 year-old Diva is Miss Clikque America. As a young child, there is one thing that Tenisha remembers her mother always saying, "It doesn't matter what you are, as long as you're good at it!"

At a very young age, seventeen to be exact, Tenisha began a career as a female illusionist. Tenisha recalls it all starting as a dare of sorts. "It happened by accident", says Tenisha. While in cosmetology school, there were personality contests, in which everyone would lipsink. Tenisha remembered how easy she thought it looked. She began to practice Larry Graham's, " One in a Million", for the next show. Well, show day had now come and Tenisha was ready. When she arrived at school one of her colleagues offered to do her hair and make-up. Tenisha was puzzled. "Hair and make-up? No, I won't be needing all that." Later in the day another colleague brought over a dress. "Here! You should wear this!" he said. "No! I'm not wearing a dress!" Tenisha exclaimed. To Tenisha's dismay, the girl she saw lipsinking in the contest the week prior, was in fact a boy. This really threw her for a loop! Well, show time was now here and when all was said and done Tenisha Casadine was the winner of the competition, hair, make-up, dress and all. This accomplishment gave Tenisha the drive and inspiration she needed to go on and compete in other contests and pageants.

Over the course of the past fifthteen years, Miss Casadine, has managed to become the victor of nineteen titles and one national title. After winning the title ***Miss Clikque Memphis***, Tenisha was afforded the opportunity to represent the state of Tennessee in the ***Miss Clikque America 2000*** Pageant. Although, she was not victorious in claiming the title that year, Tenisha was not deterred. Perseverance, stamina, hard work, and the will of God led her to ***Miss Clikque Tupelo***; where she claimed that title to again compete at the 2001 finals, held in Atlanta, this past January. The most prepared contestant of the evening, from start to finish, Miss Casadine sparkled! It was evident that Tenisha had no plans on leaving without the crown, this year.

Along with Tenisha's many accomplishments in the pageant scene, she also plays a great role in Memphis's gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgendered community. When time permits, Tenisha serves as a volunteer to different local organizations. ***Friends for Life*** is one of the organizations that Miss Casadine is an active volunteer. Whenever and wherever Tenisha can lend a helping hand, she does. From benefit shows, to outreach programs, to educating our youth on AIDS and its devastating effects. It's hard to believe that one individual can have so much to give, but Tenisha Casadine has proven to be that individual. When asked, how she would use her monthly column, Tenisha responded, "To educate the community, especially today's youth, on HIV/AIDS, acceptance of others, and self love." Advice that she gives to any and everyone is to go out and get what you want. It's not going to come to you! The only way we can achieve anything is through prayer and faith in God! Other words of advice, "Don't throw stones, as long as you live in a glass houses."

When asked about the people that she admires the most, Tenisha listed ***Niesha Dupree, Paula Sinclair, and Santana Summers***. "They endure it all. They didn't give up when times got hard", she said. Tenisha also recognizes ***Lady Peaches*** for paving the way for her in Memphis.

Sincere Thanks From Miss Clikque America 2001

First I'd like to say thanks to the almighty God for giving me the strength and knowledge that was required to endure. Thanks to ***Keshonna, Keosha,*** and ***Christopher***, for your morale support. Thanks to ***Candy, Shawn, Lucky***, and ***Ron*** for supporting and being there for me, when I needed you. Thanks to ***Terreli Buckner*** for being my friend through it all. Thanks to my brother ***Antonio King***, for standing by my side when no one else would. Thanks to ***Milan (Joseph Trice)*** and ***Pebbles***, the current reining ***Miss Liberty Plus***, for all you've done for me. Thanks to ***Jasmine Bonet*** and ***Nicole Luv Dupree*** for being as nice and sweet as you were to me. And thanks to ***Darryl!, Derrick*** and ***Dwight*** for giving me this opportunity.

On The Cover

UPCLOSE & PERSONAL

Stasha Sanchez

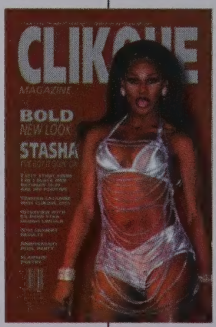
By: **KWESI D**

One of America's most decorated Female impersonators; she did not win the 2001 ***Miss National Sweetheart*** pageant held in Savannah Georgia on Feb 16-17. So who gives a #@%!?
Well there were some audience members who were ready to fight and others willing to burn the Savannah theater that night, but the true queen, reigning like the goddess that she is sat back and watched as her assistants silently packed her bags and with her head held high, dignity and pride in tact she made a quick exit from the building. The level of maturity displayed by Miss Stasha Sanchez on the night she was robbed of a title she so valiantly fought for, is unparalleled in the Diaspora of female impersonation pageantry today. This is not the Stasha of a few years ago who would have let the judges know exactly what they could have done with that 1st runner up plaque. Instead, she smiled radiantly, showing off her new nose and flawless grin.

Regardless of who was being crowned Miss National Sweetheart that night, all eyes were on Stasha.

When you can lose a pageant, but steal the show to the point where you are the contestant talked about long after the pageant is over, then on all accounts you were the winner. When asked how she felt about the results of the National Sweetheart pageant Stasha said, "No matter what happens at a pageant, I am generally happy that I competed and after it is all over, win or lose I will still be the great Stasha Sanchez who always gives my best and aims to please."

Speaking of giving her best, Stasha credits that part of her personality to her Dad with whom she has a really great relationship. Her dad loved her as his young son and now he fully accepts her as his other daughter. Her dad told her that whatever choice she made concerning her life and career she should remember one thing and that is to be the very best at whatever you chose to do. It is this philosophy that Stasha takes with her everyday and the same one that makes her such an entertaining and enjoyable entertainer and such a hard to beat pageant contestant. Miss Sanchez says that if she is not going to give it her all she just does not bother to do It at all.
The issue of family and relationships is where Stasha worries most. Pleasing her natural birth parents matters to her a great deal and acceptance from both of them was something that made the transition from being a boy to living as a woman much easier. My mom and dad taught me respect at a very early age and they proved themselves when I started becoming a woman by treating me with the same respect they had when I was a child. Stasha has one sister who people say that she favors. The respect her family shows her is characterized by their support for her career as an entertainer. Her mom and sister both were there to see her give up her title as ***Miss Black America***. They also came to see the Monday night show at Traxx and they were there when she gave up her first National title, ***Miss Black Universe*** 1997.



According to Stasha the Black Universe title has been the highlight of her career. It was the turning point and a real blessing in pushing her near the pinnacle of Female impersonation where she now rests. The art is all about growth and getting better and one day Stasha hopes to be sitting at the very top of the hierarchy among the stars. " Black Universe gave me the opportunity to travel across the country showcasing my talents. There were lots of prelims and I met a lot of people". I kept getting called for more and more bookings and my career really took off.

Stasha moved to Atlanta three and a half years ago shortly after she captured the Miss Black Universe title. She was a long time resident of Jacksonville Florida where she was born and also the city in which she won her first pageant. That title was Miss Jacksonville Newcomer. At the time she was a butch queen in drag, as she did not live her life as a woman then.

Highly decorated, adored by many, hated by a few, worshiped by some and liked by most. But there is more to life than fame, beauty and titles for Stasha. We had a very nice chat about the things that really matter to Stasha and the warmth she radiated was incredible. Lets clarify the way Miss Sanchez prefers to be addressed. Stasha is perfect, Miss Sanchez is okay but Miss Stasha is a no-no. What the heck you might say? Well I was at a loss myself but then

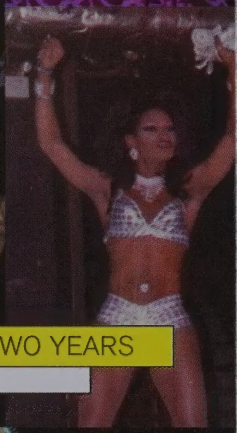
Continues On Page 51

MIYAKE-MUGLER

FACE

BODY

TITLES



THE BEAUTIFUL STASHA SANCHEZ OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS

BEST YOU DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD ALL OF THE PICTURES, DID YA?

The Rails Entertainment Group

PRESENTS

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Services

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Our Story...

The African American Men's AIDS Support Services & Survival Institute (AMASSI) was established in 1989 for men whose community had been ravaged by HIV and AIDS. Since that time AMASSI has been to the forefront of efforts in the San Francisco Bay Area funneling much needed treatment and prevention services to a relatively disenfranchised community that had been overlooked for far to long.

Today Over 75% of the work of AMASSI is in the housing arena, providing services to homeless women, children and famalies in Alameda County. • www.amassi.org

Thriving In The New Millennium

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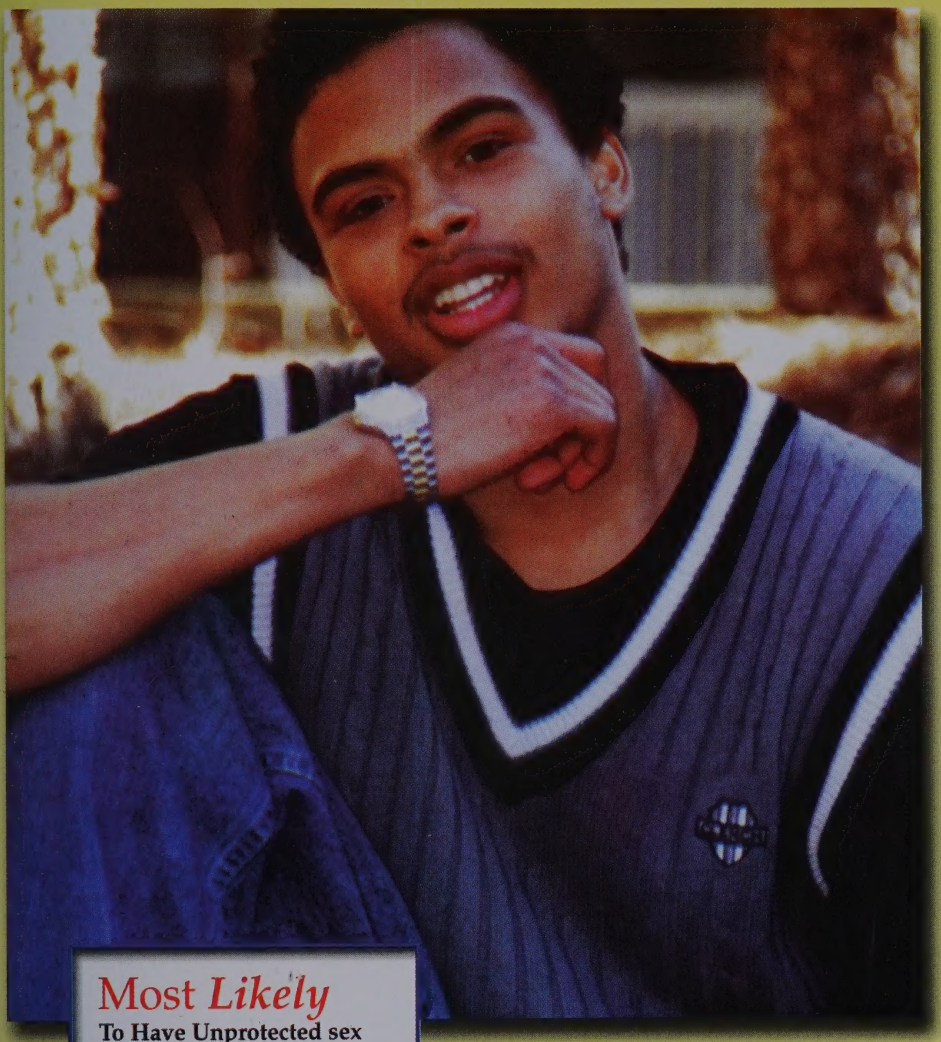
When Steve graduated high school, his classmates voted him Most Likely to succeed.

10 Years later, Steve's still being recognized:



Project Funded by The Texas Department of Health and Renaissance III, an organization serving African American Men In The Fight Against HIV/AIDS

Most *Likely*
To Have Unprotected sex

Most *Likely*
To Not Be Tested For HIV

Most *Likely*
To Be Last To Know Of His HIV/AIDS Status

Most *Likely*
To Die From HIV/AIDS

African Americans have been disproportionately affected by HIV and AIDS. The CDC had received reports of 230,029 cases of AIDS among African Americans. Although that is 36% of the 641,086 cases reported, African Americans represent only an estimated 13% of the total U.S. population. Approximately 1 in 50 African-American men are believed to be infected with HIV.

Get Tested!

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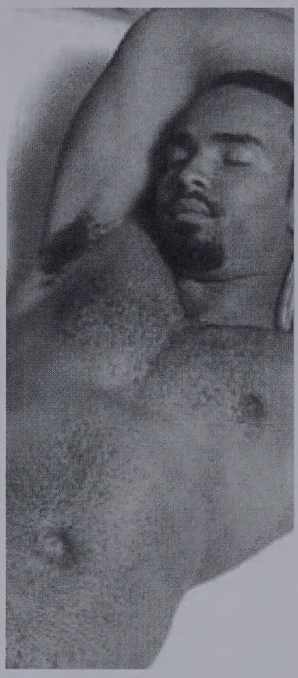
BLACK FRIDAY MANAGEMENT

Topic Of The Month

CAN WE TALK

What I Am Is What I Am, And What You Are Is What You Are

I Love Ice Cream



Even though I don't really eat dairy, my two favorite flavors are Coffee and Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough. Cookie Dough seems a lot easier to come by than coffee these days, but I Love them both equally, and will inhale a bowl of either set in front of me. When I am devouring a scoop of Coffee, Cookie Dough never really crosses my mind, and vice versa. The one alone is so delectable that I have never found myself desiring to mix the two. Of course, too much ice cream can make one sick. So, even though I love them both, I don't eat either of them everyday. My Love for ice cream is not amplified by the amount of flavors I enjoy. I just want ice cream when I want ice cream, and as I Love both Cookie Dough and Coffee so much, either of them will do.

This is the analogy I use to explain what it means to be bisexual, biemotional, or what I term as 'open'. I am capable- or open- to attractions, relationships and 'relations' with both men and women. Each sex is different and intimacy with either is beautiful in it's own, unique way.

So I was understandably upset when I read the comment of some ersatz intellectual in this purportedly progressive publication referring to "those bisexuals" as "confused sissies who will screw anything that breathes." This idea is as tired as the people who propagate it.

Whatever Your Mood!

Some of us do start our sexual journeys on one road, reluctantly admitting later in life that we are better outfitted for another. However, many gay and straight people who call those that are open "confused" have never experienced sex with both men and women. Perhaps such individuals are confusing "confusion" with their own crises of confidence. Whatever the case, I, for one am quite clear on the issue. I have had sex with both men and women, and enjoyed sex with both men and women. This is a testament offered not to invalidate the existence of "confusion" amongst some, but to negate its necessity for all. *–CM–*

By: **A. OMAR**

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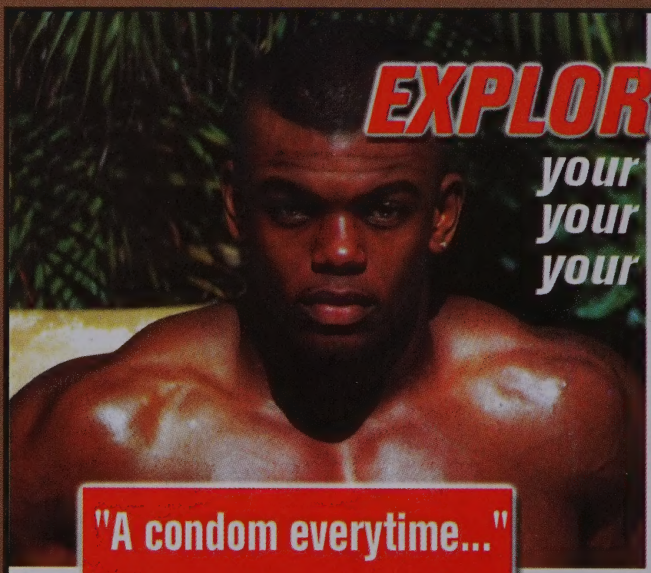

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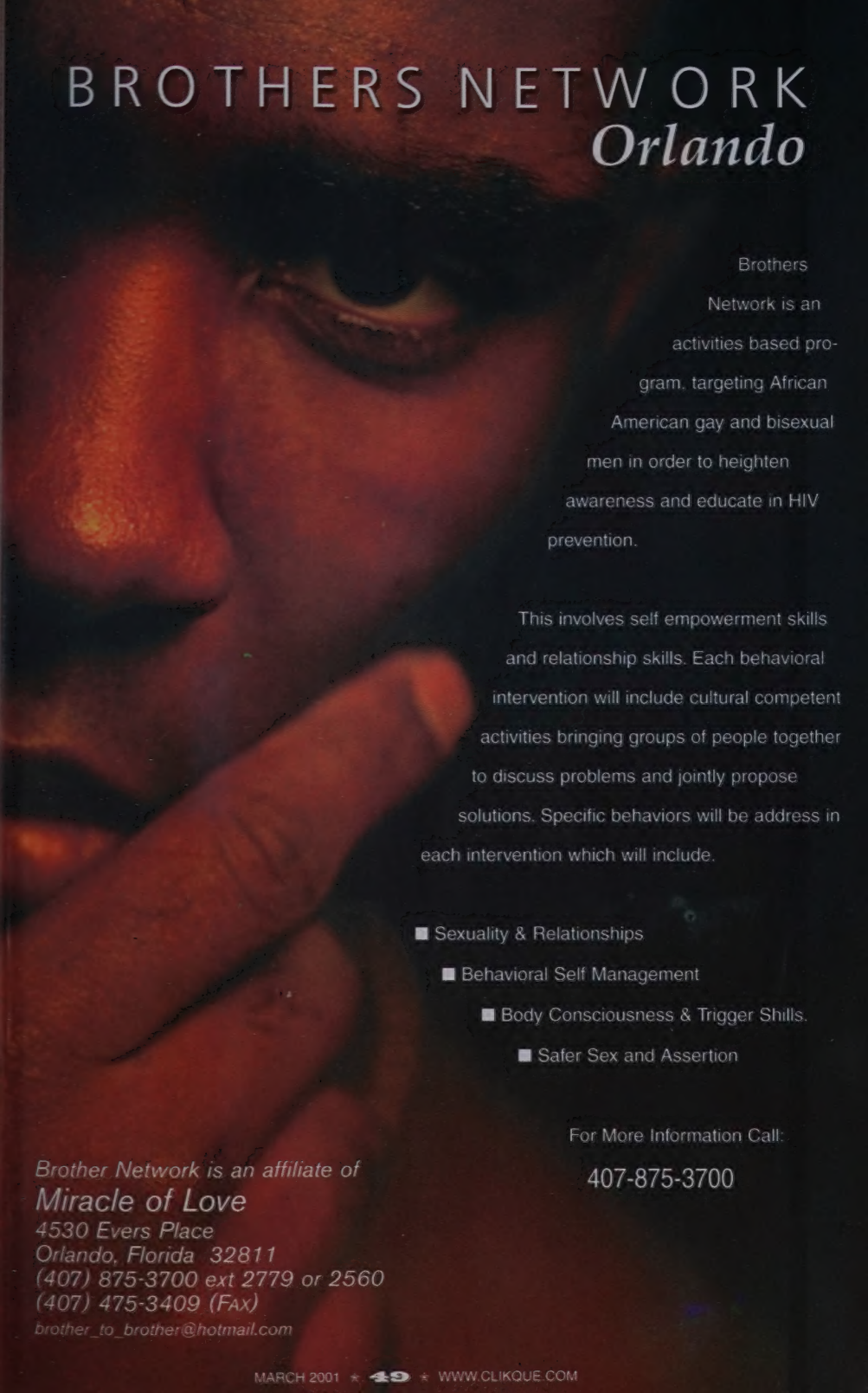

BROTHERS NETWORK
Orlando

Brothers Network is an activities based program, targeting African American gay and bisexual men in order to heighten awareness and educate in HIV prevention.

This involves self empowerment skills and relationship skills. Each behavioral intervention will include cultural competent activities bringing groups of people together to discuss problems and jointly propose solutions. Specific behaviors will be address in each intervention which will include.

- Sexuality & Relationships
- Behavioral Self Management
- Body Consciousness & Trigger Shills.
- Safer Sex and Assertion

For More Information Call:

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Brother Network is an affiliate of

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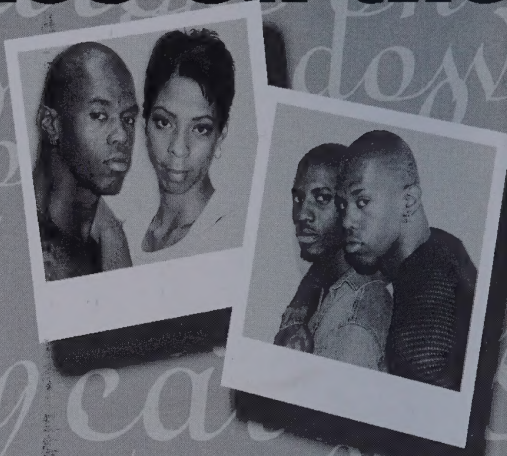

DOWN-LOW

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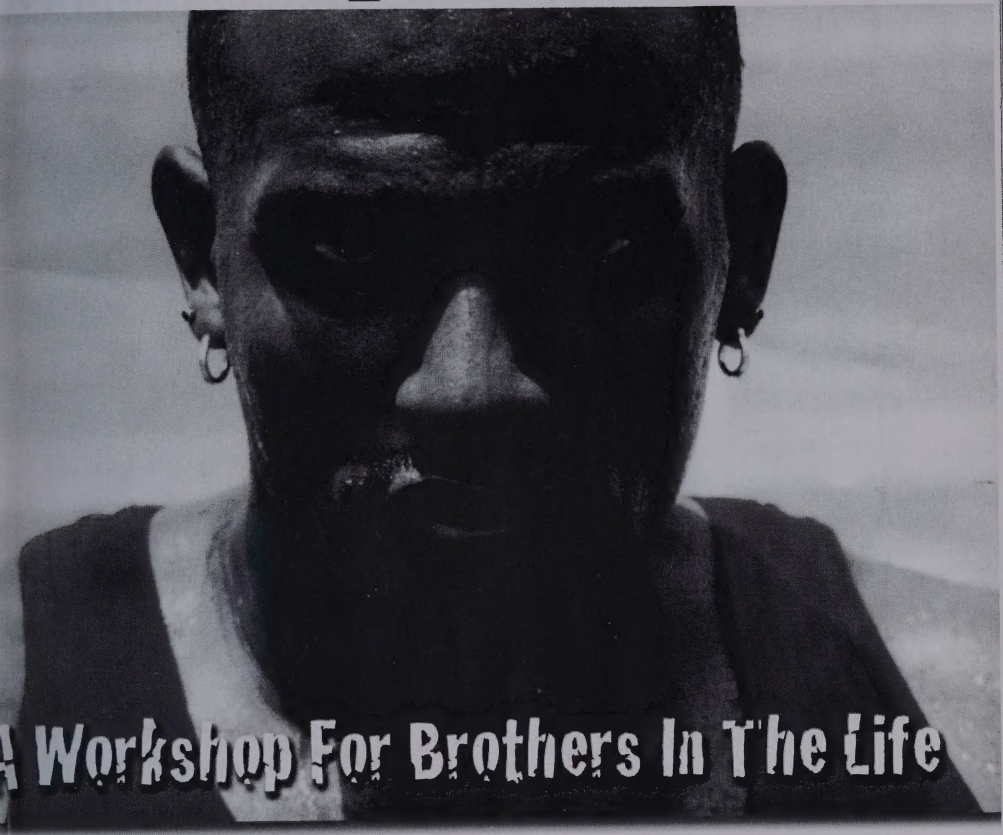
we go deep



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A Conversation With Ex-Porn Star

DENNIS LINCOLN

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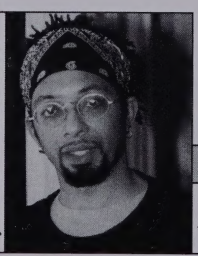
Charming and charismatic. Words used to describe some of the most beloved individuals throughout history, almost to the point of being cliche'. But when I sat down to speak with former porn star, Dennis Lincoln, no two words seemed more befitting. A beautiful brother, serving more than just face and body for the video screen. We vibed on the porn industry while dinning on soup and salad, then moved into the life of a former porn star turned serious musician. Here is how the conversation went:

CLIK: For those readers who aren't fully aware of who you are, will you give us a few of your most popular titles.

DL: Well, there's "Black 4 More", "Cops", "Black Balled", the solo effort "Go Fuck Yourself", Technical Ecstacy" and the soon to be released "Black Balled 3".

CLIK: I've seen all of them, and believe me when I say I've enjoyed your performances.
Most believe that those in pornography come from extremely dysfunctional backgrounds. Did you find this to be the case?

DL: I believe that anyone, you and myself included, who would allow themselves to be exploited in this manner, has to have some type of dysfunction, be it low self esteem, drug or alcohol abuse, physical abuse or whatever. There is a dysfunction there.
I got into it because of a relationship I was in. It was an outlet for me.



By: **Khalid Dawuud Idawu**

CLIK: This was obviously a bad relationship; was it not?

DL: Yes. My ex was a manic depressive who is now a large mainstream porno star.

CLIK: Mainstream?

DL: Basically that's white video's. White productions receive a larger budget than black productions, up to $80,000, giving them mainstream status while the black productions only receive $3,500 to $5,000.

CLIK: That's fucked up.

DL: It's a white run and owned industry.

CLIK: Do you choose whom you work with or is there a contract that stipulates who your on screen partners will be?

DL: Basically, you never know who you're going to be with. Certain producers still literally find $50 hustlers to perform in videos. It keeps the budget down and they know folks will buy them anyway.

CLIK: Who have been some of your favorite costars?

DL: Winston Love, Bam, Mocha, J.C. Carter, and even my ex, Tony Donovan.

CLIK: How about Bobby Blake?

DL: I've done some things with Bobby Blake and to be honest, I don't like Bobby Blake. He is a well manicured brother, but personally, I don't like him. I have wanted to work with Richard Reyes though.

CLIK: That brotha turns me on. Really! Anyway, some folk think this industry is easy cash and lead to bigger and better things. Is this a reality?

DL: Only if you are white. MTV has hired several VJ's who were former gay porn stars and boosted their careers.

CLIK: You've left the industry to pursue music. How is that going?

DL: Music was there first. It always was. Porn was a dysfunctional sidetrack.

CLIK: So, what are your goals?

DL: I'm an artist. Like you, I'd like my voice to be heard.

Want More Information On This Topic?

If you would like to get more information about Dennis Lincoln, visit his site at ***www.dennislincoln.com.*** *Khalid is a senior staff writer for Clikque Magazine.*

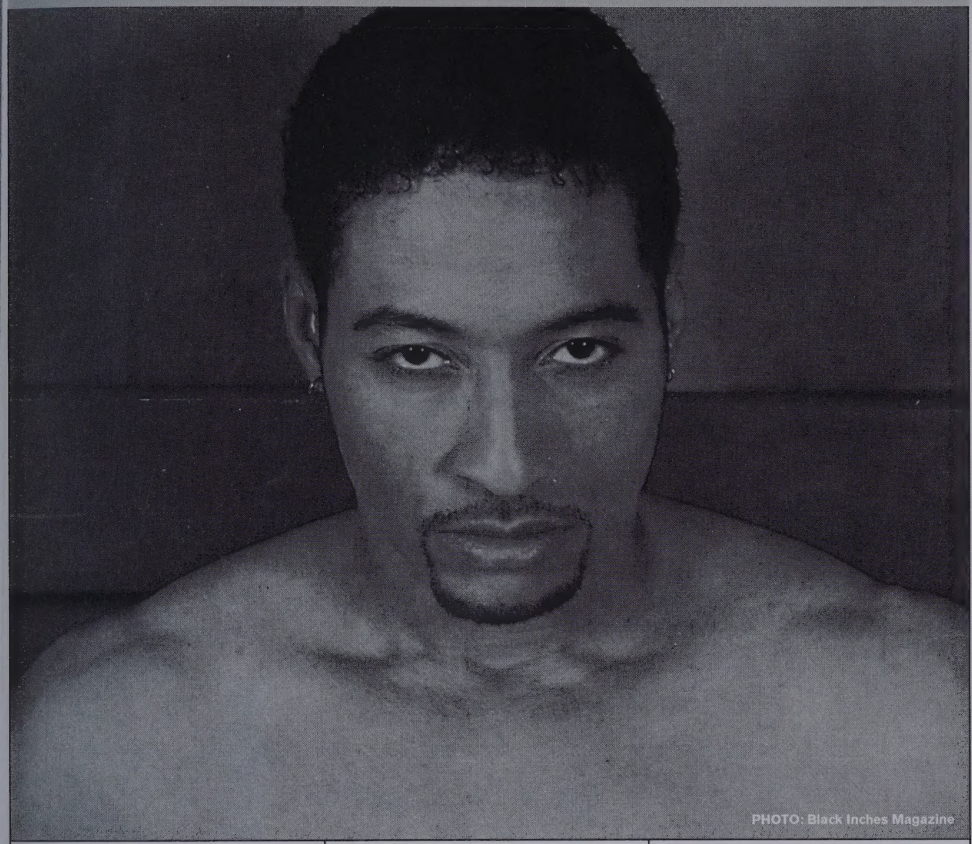


PHOTO: Black Inches Magazine

CLIK: Do you write your own music?

DL: Absolutely! I write, play bass guitar and keyboards.

CLIK: I"ve heard you sing. Your voice is filled with the romanticism of a Johnny Mathis but the sexuality of Marvin Gaye.

DL: Thank you. But look forward to a lot more diversity. Right now, I'm taking voice lessons to enhance what has been given to me.

CLIK: I think that is great. More artist should learn to enhance their crafts. Who are some people you would like to work with?

DL: There are the obvious, my idols who are no longer with us, Marvin Gaye and Donny Hathaway. I love Howard Hewitt, Alanis Morrisette and Li'l Kim to name a few. My music is very personal and eclectic.

CLIK: You have lead an interesting life. How do you keep a positive outlook on your future?

DL: I'm very healthy. I work out 5 days a week. I don't do any type of drugs, nor do I drink or smoke. Music and working out have been my saving graces.

CLIK: You have a website. On your website I"ve noticed that you hire yourself out as an escort.

DL: Yes. But it's not the hourly type situations. I'm no longer in the industry, but Dennis Lincoln still exists. My fans hire the video fantasy. I perform for them.

CLIK: Will Dennis Lincoln be the recording star?

DL: No. But of course there will be that porn stigma should my career blossom beyond even my wildest dreams. That's why I will hide nothing.

CLIK: How can people find out more about you?

DL: Well that can go to my website www.DennisLincoln.com or they can click onto www.KirkSpencer.com.

CLIK: Who's Kirk Spencer?

DL: Ha ha. That's coming soon.

We finished our conversation there. But believe me brothers and sisters; this is definitely not the last you'll hear from this beautiful man. His spirit and positive outlook will bring joy to whole new set of fans. Fans who will see him as more than what the world of porn has shown. I'm proud to call him a friend and wish him much success in all his future endeavors. (Much Jah love to you brotha)

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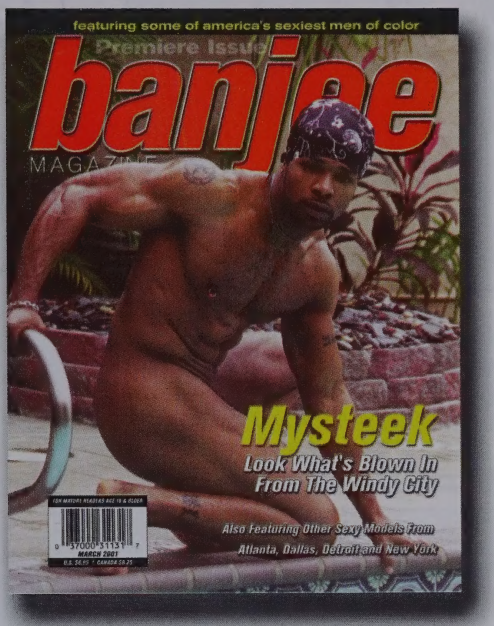
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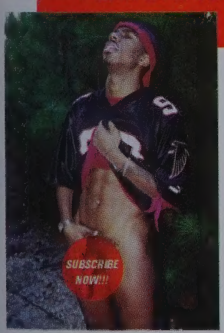

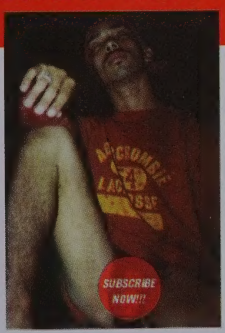

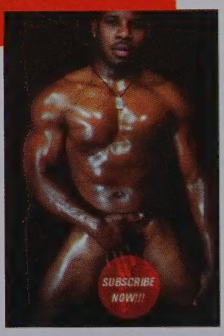

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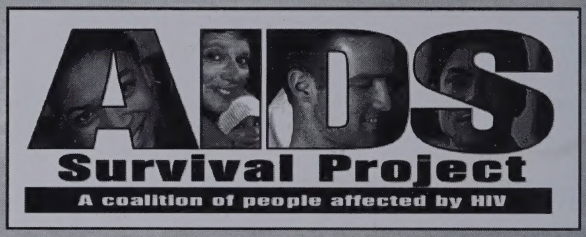

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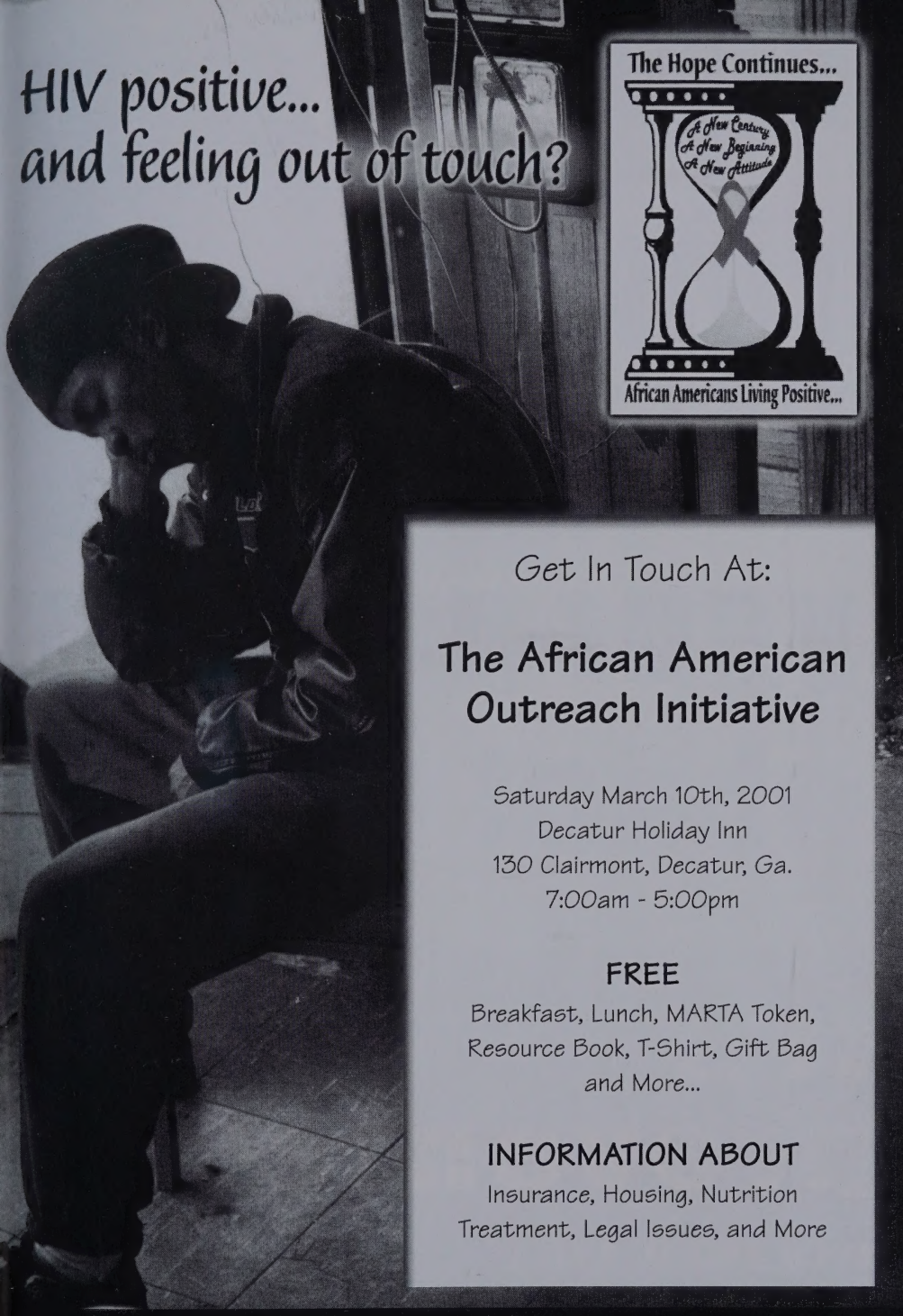
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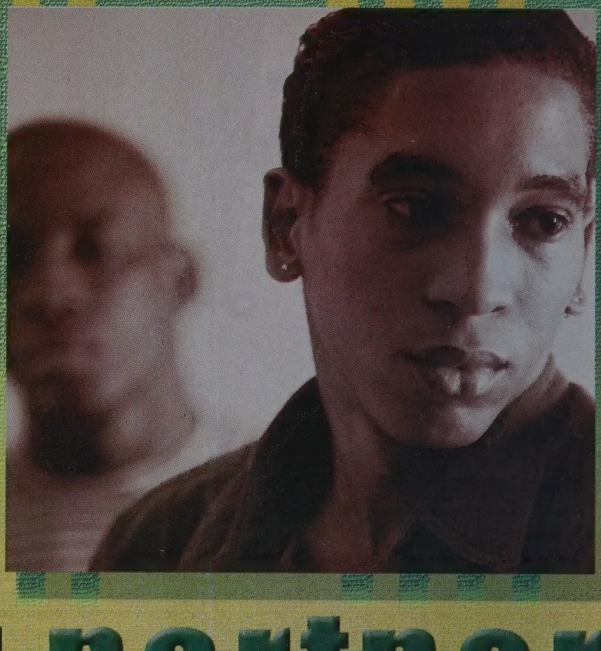

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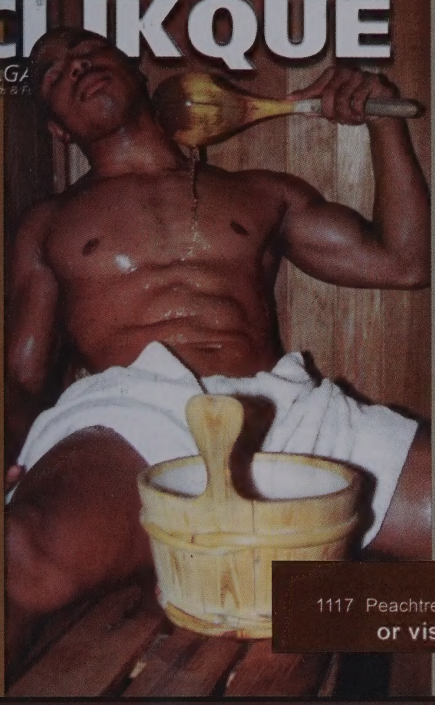

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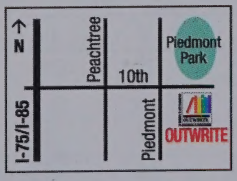

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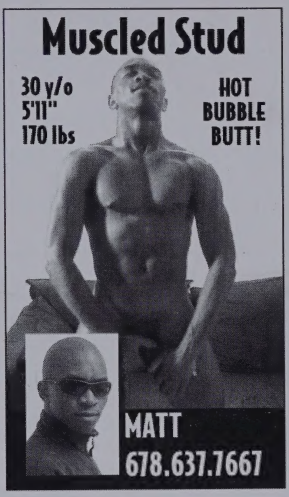

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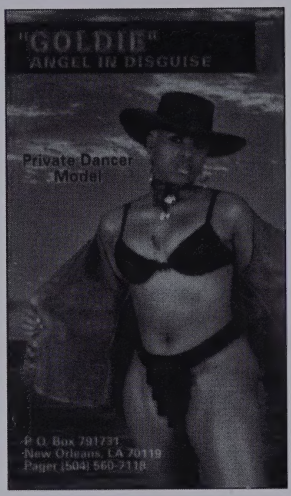

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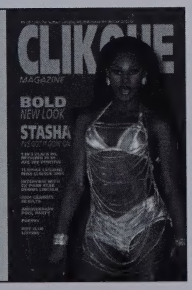

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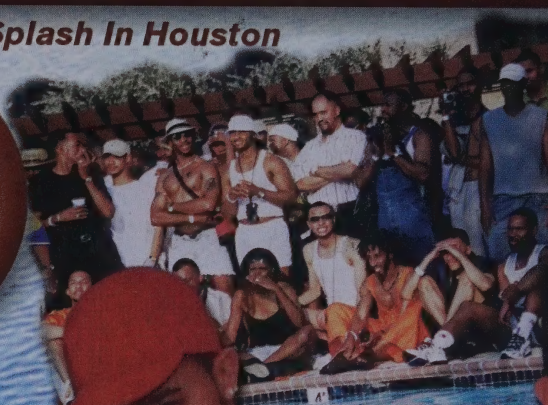

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